

A Close Call: Student Groups Escape \$27K Network, Phone Bill

By John A. Hawkinson
STAFF REPORTER

Student groups were billed \$27,000 in unexpected charges for phones and network in June, covering the fiscal year from July 2007 to June 2008. The MIT administration has agreed to cover the charges this year, but plans for who would pay similar charges next year remain uncertain.

A committee including student representatives is being formed to address this question.

Of the 38 student groups affected, most were charged several hundred dollars, though some larger ones were billed over \$1,000.

The charges, posted to student groups' accounts on June 23, were a result of changes to the billing model for phones and network that Information Services and Technology put into place in June 2007.

This fiscal year, departments were billed on a new system that bases costs on employee headcount. But late in 2007, IS&T consulted with MIT's grants office and decided that student groups, as well as external vendors on campus, would be excluded from the new billing sys-

tem, said IS&T Director of Finance Angie Milonas. At that time, no new plan for how these groups would be billed for FY2008 and future years was set.

Student groups were not informed of these changes or discussions.

In early June, IS&T, along with Dean for Student Activities Jed W. Wartman and Peter D. Cummings, director of financial planning for the Division of Student Life, decided to calculate charges based on those from FY2007. Each group was billed 10 percent more than last year to cover rising costs. The student groups were not informed of this decision either.

As reported in *The Tech* last April, IS&T transitioned their bills to departments from charging monthly fees for each telephone and IP address to charging a fee based on number of employees to try to simplify billing and encourage the Institute to make more effective use of telephone and networking services.

Milonas said the later decision to exclude student groups and external vendors from the new billing plan stemmed from federal restrictions on

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DAVID DA HE—THE TECH

Fireworks light up the night sky over the Charles River as Boston celebrates Independence Day 2008. See pages 10–11 for more photographs from the Fourth of July.

Lawyer: Student in NW16 Basement Was 'Hacking'

Felony Charges Against Student Are Still Pending

By Austin Chu
STAFF REPORTER

More than four weeks after Michael P. Short G was arrested after being found in an off-limits location in NW16, felony charges are still pending against him. Despite silence from officials at MIT, Short's lawyer seems optimistic that the charges will eventually be dropped as in previous hacking-related cases.

Steven J. Sack, Short's lawyer, drew a connection between Short's case and the case of Kristina K. Brown '09, David Nawi G, and Matthew W. Petersen '09, who were charged with trespassing and breaking and entering with intent to commit a felony after being found in the Faculty Club after hours in October 2006. In that case, the charges were eventually dismissed at MIT's request after substantial community outcry. Sack was also the lawyer for Brown.

"It's a hacking case," said Sack. "I'm hoping that the case will be resolved in a similar fashion [to the Brown, Nawi, and Petersen case], but I haven't spoken with anybody

at MIT."

Short, who is a former *Tech* features writer, declined to comment.

Numerous MIT administrators who were contacted for this article declined to comment on the details specific to this case, most citing its pending state and the ongoing fact-finding process.

Oaz Nir, president of the Graduate Student Council, wrote in an e-mail that "there are a couple things going on," but otherwise also declined to comment.

Two MIT Police officers responding to a motion-triggered alarm just before midnight on Saturday, June 7 found Short, along with fellow MIT graduate student Harold S. Barnard and Brandeis University graduate student Marina Dang, in a normally locked caged room in the basement

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Barbara Liskov Named Institute Professor

By Natasha Plotkin
NEWS EDITOR

Associate Provost for Faculty Equity Barbara H. Liskov became an Institute Professor, achieving the highest faculty rank at MIT, on July 1.

With this role, she joins a group of 12 other current Institute Professors, which includes Chemical Engineering Professor Robert S. Langer ScD '74 and only one other woman, Aeronautics and Astronautics and Engineering Systems Professor Sheila E. Widnall '60.

Liskov has built a name for herself at the Institute for her work in research, teaching, and the promotion of faculty equity over the 36 years since she became a professor here in 1972.

Liskov, head of the Programming Methodology Group in the Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, was involved primarily in the development of programming languages earlier in her career, but now focuses her research on distributed systems.

Colleagues and students admire Liskov for her intellect and attitude towards her work. "Barbara is very good at cutting to the heart of systems," said Benjamin M. Vandiver '00, one of Liskov's recent students who graduated with a doctorate in 2008. "This allows her to understand systems quickly and also to present them succinctly."

Vandiver noted a group meeting in which Liskov spoke in place of a student who could not attend. "Barbara stood up and gave his talk for him with basically no preparation — probably better than he would have done," Vandiver said.

A current student of Liskov's, David A. Schultz G, noted her meticulousness and echoed Vandiver's appreciation of her ability to un-

Liskov, Page 15



RICARDO RAMIREZ—THE TECH

Paul Pierce, 2008 NBA Finals MVP, holds up his trophy during the Celtics' Rolling Rally on June 19 on Tremont St. The Boston Celtics defeated the Los Angeles Lakers to clinch their first NBA Championship in 22 years.

10-250 Upgrades to Be Completed by Fall With New Seating, Audiovisual Equipment

By Arkajit Dey
NEWS EDITOR

Lecture hall 10-250, closed for renovations in the spring, will be bigger and brighter when it reopens for the first day of classes in the fall.

The renovation project is on schedule, and the upgrade will be "substantially complete by the mid-

dle of August," said Assistant Registrar Peter D. Bedrosian.

Nearly everything in the lecture hall is being upgraded. Currently, new seating and audiovisual equipment are being installed, and the ceiling over the front of the room is being finished, said Bedrosian. Only the motorized chalkboards will remain unchanged, as they

were replaced two years ago. The ceiling has been elevated, the dark overhang above the side steps eliminated, and the columns shaved and refined. These modifications, said Bedrosian, complement the new energy-efficient lights to provide an overall brighter appearance.

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In Short

¶ **EZRide Shuttle** will increase its service and implement new stop locations in University Park beginning Monday, July 14. Service on Sidney St. will be relocated to Landsdowne St. to provide better commute service for MIT graduate students, according to the Graduate Student Council. See http://www.charlesrivertma.org/program_ezride_advisories.htm.

¶ **Timothy J. Berners-Lee**, inventor of the World Wide Web, has been named the 3Com Founders Professor of Engineering with a joint appointment in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

¶ **Sherwin Greenblatt '62**, former executive vice president and treasurer of MIT, will serve as the interim executive vice president and CEO of the MIT Alumni Association as a search is conducted to find Elizabeth A. Garvin's replacement. Garvin is leaving MIT to become vice president for institutional engagement at the Rhode Island School of Design, effective Aug. 1.

¶ **Former MIT President Charles M. Vest** was appointed a member of West Virginia University's Board of Governors, effective July 1. Vest received an undergraduate degree from WVU in 1963.

The Tech publishes once a month during the summer. Our next issue is Friday, Aug. 8.

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WORLD & NATION

Iran Says ‘Crushing Response’ Would Follow a Western Attack

By Alan Cowell
THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

A senior Iranian official was quoted Tuesday as threatening that Iran would respond to any military attack by striking Israel and America’s vital interests around the globe.

“In case that they commit such foolishness, Tel Aviv and the U.S. fleet in the Persian Gulf would be the first targets to burst into flames receiving Iran’s crushing response,” said Ali Shirazi, a representative of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, Iran’s supreme leader, according to the ISNA news agency.

The threat — which drew no immediate response from Israel or the United States — was the latest salvo in the complex maneuvering around Western efforts to persuade Iran to abandon its nuclear ambitions, particularly the enrichment of uranium.

The United States, Israel and other Western countries fear that Iran’s nuclear program is designed to build nuclear weapons, but Tehran says it is for civilian purposes.

Senate Report Links Dead Doctors to Payments by Medicare

By Robert Pear
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Congressional investigators said Tuesday that Medicare had paid tens of millions of dollars to suppliers improperly using identification numbers of doctors who died years ago.

The government has no reliable way to spot claims linked to dead doctors, many of whom are still listed as active Medicare providers though they died 10 or 15 years ago, the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations said.

Medicare covers wheelchairs, walkers, home oxygen equipment and many other types of medical equipment. When suppliers file claims for equipment provided to a Medicare beneficiary, they normally must list an identification number for the doctor who prescribed or ordered it.

“From 2000 to 2007, Medicare paid 478,500 claims containing identification numbers that were assigned to deceased physicians,” the subcommittee said in a new report. “The total amount paid for these claims is estimated to be between \$60 million and \$92 million. These claims contained identification numbers for an estimated 16,548 to 18,240 deceased physicians.”

Iraqi Officials Still Insisting on Timetable of Withdraw

By Campbell Robertson
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD

Iraqi officials continued to insist Tuesday that a timetable for the withdrawal of coalition troops must be included in any security agreement with the United States.

Meanwhile, in western Anbar province, 22 bodies were found at a Ramadi elementary school that was undergoing construction, 20 of them buried in the playing fields, apparently over a lengthy period, the local police said.

Mowaffak al-Rubaie, the national security adviser, said the government would reject any security agreement that did not include a schedule for the departure of foreign troops.

“We will not accept a memorandum of understanding without having timeline horizons for the cessation of combat operations as well as the departure of all the combat brigades,” al-Rubaie said in a telephone interview. However, he declined to offer specifics on a timeline, suggesting that the Iraqi government itself was not yet sure how quickly it wanted the United States to withdraw.

Earlier in the day, al-Rubaie was in the holy city of Najaf meeting with Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, Iraq’s most senior Shiite religious leader. The ayatollah has not expressed an opinion on the specifics of the negotiations, emphasizing only that Iraq must protect its sovereignty.

Fed Sees Turmoil Lasting Longer Than Expected

By Stephen Labaton
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Federal policymakers have concluded that the turmoil plaguing the housing and financial markets is likely to spill deep into 2009, becoming one of the most significant domestic problems to confront the next president when he steps into the Oval Office in January.

Ben S. Bernanke, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, publicly indicated on Tuesday that he believes the problems will persist into next year when he outlined a series of steps the Fed is considering in the coming months.

One such step would extend low-interest lending programs to Wall Street’s largest investment banks into next year. The programs, one of which was set to expire in September, can continue only if the Fed issues a finding that there are “unusual and exigent circumstances” that justify them.

Bernanke also recommended that Congress grant the Fed broader authority to monitor and supervise the financial markets to assure greater stability in the future. But with time running out on this session, lawmakers are unlikely to adopt such legisla-

tion before next year.

Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr. said in a speech last week in London that the problems plaguing the housing and financial markets might last longer than originally expected.

He followed up in another speech on Tuesday by saying that the Bush administration was working to prevent as many home foreclosures as possible, but that “many of today’s unusually high number of foreclosures are not preventable.” Paulson said 1.5 million home foreclosures were started in 2007 and that an estimated 2.5 million more would take place this year.

Still, the markets seemed reassured that Washington officials were redoubling their efforts to resuscitate the weak housing sector, despite the downbeat comments. The Dow Jones industrial average closed, which has fallen sharply in recent weeks, closed up 1.4 percent, or 152 points.

Bernanke said that the Fed would issue next week long-awaited rules to restrict new exotic mortgages and high-cost loans for people with weak credit. Such mortgages have been a central cause of the current market problems.

The Federal Housing Administra-

tion will also begin an expanded effort next week to help a larger group of troubled homeowners refinance their adjustable mortgages. Under the plan, homeowners would be eligible to refinance even if they have missed up to three monthly mortgage payments over the previous 12 months. Homeowners who have fallen behind on their payments because of job loss, declining wages and family illness will also be eligible, even if their rates have not increased. Homeowners are now eligible only if they were current on their mortgages before their interest rate was adjusted upward.

For its part, Congress is close to completing legislation on a \$300 billion foreclosure-rescue plan that would help troubled borrowers refinance into more affordable loans insured by the federal government. The Senate is expected to approve a measure by next week.

The Fed created the lending programs to Wall Street in March as part of a broader effort to prevent financial institutions from collapsing, as Bear Stearns nearly did before it was sold under heavy pressure from the Fed and the Bush administration to JP-Morgan Chase.

Richest Nations Pledge To Halve Greenhouse Gas

By Sheryl Gay Stolberg
THE NEW YORK TIMES

RUSUTSU, JAPAN

President Bush and leaders of the world’s richest nations pledged Tuesday to “move toward a low-carbon society” by cutting greenhouse gas emissions in half by 2050, the latest step in a long evolution by a president who for years played down the threat of global warming.

The declaration by the Group of Eight — the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Canada and Russia — was the first time that the Bush White House had publicly backed an explicit long-term target for eliminating the gases that scientists have said are warming the planet. But it failed to set a similar goal for cutting emissions over the next decade, and drew sharp criticism from environmentalists, who called it a missed opportunity.

In a sense, the document represents an environmental quid pro quo. In exchange for agreeing to the “50 by 2050” language, Bush got what he has sought as his price for joining an international accord: a statement from the rest of the Group of Eight that developing nations like China and India, which have declined to accept mandatory caps on carbon emissions, must be included in any climate change treaty.

European leaders, who have long pressed Bush to take a more aggressive stance on global warming, said the declaration could enhance efforts to reach a binding agreement to reduce emissions when negotiators meet in Copenhagen, Denmark, next year under U.N. auspices.

“This is a strong signal to citizens around the world,” the president of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso, told reporters at a

news conference near here. “The science is clear; the economic case for action is stronger than ever. Now we need to go the extra mile to secure an ambitious global deal in Copenhagen.”

The leaders of the eight industrialized countries, who gathered on the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido for their annual meeting, spent months debating the language of Tuesday’s communique in lower-level negotiations. Critics said it was short on specifics, and that both developed and developing countries would need to make much sharper cuts in emissions to head off the worst effects of global warming.

The statement left unclear, for instance, whether the cuts made by 2050 would be pegged to current emissions levels, or 1990 levels, as many advocates had hoped.

WEATHER

Hurricane Season Underway

By Brian H. Tang
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Although the Atlantic Ocean sees the lion’s share of its hurricanes August through October, hurricanes have been observed to form in July. Last week, a strong and consolidated area of thunderstorms emerged off Africa and quickly developed into Tropical Storm Bertha. On Monday, Bertha strengthened into a hurricane and underwent a period of rapid intensification becoming a category 3 storm with winds of 120 mph (190 kph). While hurricanes in July aren’t remarkable, the location of Bertha is. Bertha has set records for the farthest east a tropical storm, hurricane, and major hurricane have formed so early in the hurricane season (though reliable records date back to only the early ’70s).

Even though hurricanes are rare in New England, they are able to strike our part of the world with fury. The last significant hurricane to hit the region was Hurricane Bob in 1991 bringing storm surge, high winds, and heavy rain to much of the area. More frequently, the remnants of a hurricane track up the east coast primary impacting us with flooding rains. It is impossible to say what this season will bring for any one spot on the map, but in the short term, Bertha will likely stay out to sea and not pose any threat to the U.S.

Extended Forecast

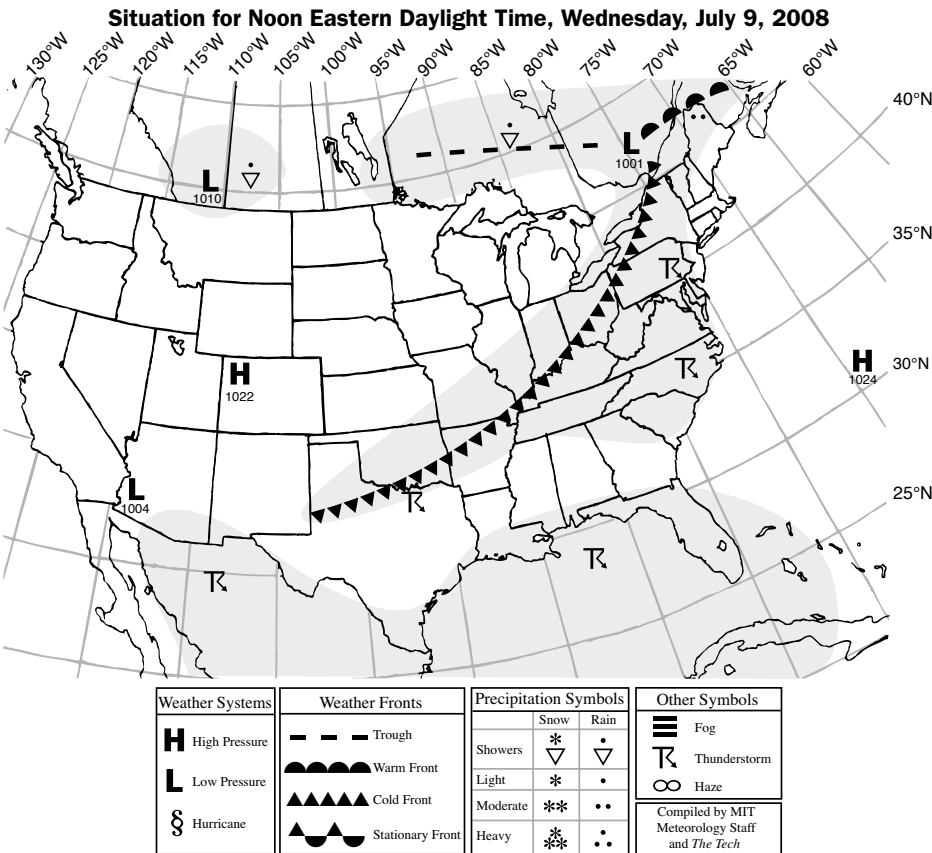
Today: Partly cloudy, hot, humid, and breezy. Scattered thunderstorms in the late afternoon. High 91°F (33°C).

Tonight: Cloudy with showers and isolated thunderstorms. Low 70°F (21°C).

Tomorrow: Sunny and less humid. High 82°F (28°C).

Tomorrow night: Clear. Low 64°F (18°C).

Friday: Mostly sunny. High 80°F (27°C).



U.S. and Czechs Sign Accord on Ballistic Missile Shield

By **Judy Dempsey**
and **Dan Bilefsky**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BERLIN

The United States and the Czech Republic signed a landmark accord on Tuesday to allow the Pentagon to deploy part of its widely debated anti-ballistic missile shield on territory once occupied by Soviet troops.

The accord, the first of its kind to be reached with a Central or East European country, was signed in Prague by Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and her Czech counterpart, Karel Schwarzenberg, despite strong opposition from Russia. It must also be ratified by Czech lawmakers, many of whom oppose it.

Russia warned on Tuesday that the accord could lead to a military response, which the Kremlin has previously threatened but never specified.

President Dmitri A. Medvedev and his predecessor, Vladimir V. Putin, who is now the Russian prime minister, had told the United States that the Kremlin saw a missile shield in this part of Europe as a threat to Russian security. Putin said it could even lead to a new Cold War.

But American and Czech officials said the system's radar component, to be stationed south of Prague, would defend the NATO members in Europe and the United States against long-range weapons from the Middle East, particularly Iran.

"Ballistic missile proliferation is not an imaginary threat," Rice said Tuesday after meeting with the Czech prime minister, Mirek Topolánek. She said Iran continued to work toward a nuclear bomb, along with long-range missiles that could carry a warhead.

Rice is on a European tour that includes Bulgaria and Georgia, but not Poland. The United States hopes to base 10 interceptor missiles there, but the governments in Warsaw and Washington have so far failed to reach agreement on the terms.

Unlike the Czech Republic, the Polish center-right government led by Donald Tusk has taken a tough negotiating stance. In return for hosting the interceptors, Poland has asked the United States to modernize Polish air defenses so that the country can defend itself against incoming short-range and medium-range missiles.

The accord with the Czech Re-

public is not without its problems.

The deal signed on Tuesday does not ensure that the radar system will be built immediately or that the next American administration will stick to the project.

Negotiations are still taking place on a second treaty that deals with the legal status of American troops to be deployed at the planned radar base. Both treaties must be ratified by Czech legislators, many of whom are skeptical about the project, while the public is largely opposed.

Topolánek's coalition government does not have enough seats to assure support for the plans and may need opposition votes. Legislators from the Green Party, the government's junior coalition partner, have indicated they may block the proposals, and opposition parties have demanded a national referendum. About two-thirds of Czechs oppose the radar deployment, according to opinion polls.

"Ratification will be difficult," said Jiri Schneider, program director at the Prague Security Studies Institute. "The missile defense plan has sparked a national debate about how exposed we want to be on the international stage."

Issues Remain for Beijing Games, Says Int'l Olympic Committee

By **Jim Yardley**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

With a month remaining before the Beijing Olympics, the International Olympic Committee on Tuesday praised the city's preparations but also cited two "open issues" that remain: whether the city can deliver good air quality and fulfill promises to allow television networks to broadcast from non-Olympic sites.

"We think we've done everything," said Hein Verbruggen, chairman of the IOC's Coordination Commission, in a telephone interview. "But now we have to see in practice how it will work."

Pollution and media access remain uncertainties as Beijing hustles to finish construction projects, plant flowers and get the city ready for the Aug. 8 opening ceremonies. On Tuesday, Beijing organizers christened the two state-of-the-art Olympic media centers that will house more than 20,000 journalists during the games.

The controversy over broadcast access began in March, after the authorities suppressed the violent Ti-

betan protests in western China. Beijing announced that networks would not be allowed to broadcast live from Tiananmen Square. The square is the symbolic center of Beijing and offers striking views of the Forbidden City. But it is also where Chinese troops crushed pro-democracy protesters in 1989 and is still a magnet for occasional protesters.

Verbruggen, who led a 12-member IOC delegation in Beijing this week, said the issue of broadcast rights from the Forbidden City, the Great Wall of China and other "icon" destinations was discussed during meetings Monday and Tuesday with the Beijing Olympic Games Organizing Committee.

"There will be a lot of opportunities to use all the icons," Verbruggen said. He said networks would face restrictions on when they were permitted to televise from Tiananmen Square, but that local authorities had "granted it will be possible to film there."

Last year, Beijing lifted certain domestic travel restrictions on foreign journalists as part of its Olympic pledge to allow more open media coverage. But foreign journalists have

continued to experience sporadic interference, especially after the Tibet crisis. Foreign journalists are still blocked from traveling to certain Tibetan areas in western China. On Monday, Human Rights Watch released a report accusing China of failing to fulfill its promises on media freedom.

Now, television networks want assurances that Beijing will follow through on its pledges to allow live shots at non-Olympic venues. Last week, members of a German ZDF television crew said they were harassed by plainclothes and uniformed security officers as they tried to film live shots from the Great Wall of China — even though the crew had government approval. Security officers jumped in front of the cameras during live shots and some Chinese citizens interviewed by the crew were later questioned by authorities, according to the Foreign Correspondent's Club of China.

Executives at some American television networks privately acknowledge problems securing broadcasting access in Beijing. Some stations that reserved locations for live shots later had their permissions revoked

Afghan Bombing Sends Message to India: With Power Comes Risks

By **Somini Sengupta**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW DELHI, INDIA

The suicide bombing on Monday outside the Indian Embassy in Kabul was the latest and most audacious attack in recent months on Indian interests in Afghanistan, where New Delhi, since helping to topple the Taliban in 2001, has staked its largest outside aid package ever.

India has poured unprecedented amounts of money and people into the reconstruction of Afghanistan, a vital passage into resource-rich Central Asia. It has spent more than \$750 million, building a strategic road across the country's southwest, training teachers and civil servants, and working on erecting a new seat of the national Parliament.

That engagement has come at a mounting cost to the 4,000 Indian citizens working in Afghanistan. In the last two and a half years, an Indian driver for the road reconstruction team was found decapitated, an engineer was abducted and killed, and seven members of the paramilitary force guarding Indian reconstruction crews were slain.

Last year alone, the Indian Border Roads Organization came under 30 rocket attacks as it built the 124-mile stretch of road across Nimroz province that will ultimately link landlocked Afghanistan to a seaport in Iran.

The embassy bombing on Monday seems to have been the most effective strike: A suicide bomber blew himself up as two Indian diplomats drove into the embassy early in the morning, reducing the compound to rubble and blood. Four Indians, including the two diplomats, were killed. The bulk of the 41 dead were Afghan civilians who had come for embassy services.

China Warns Sarkozy Not to See Dalai Lama

By **Steven Erlanger**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARIS

President Nicolas Sarkozy of France, who is expected to announce on Wednesday that he will after all attend the opening ceremonies of Beijing's Olympic Games, was warned by China on Tuesday not to meet with the Dalai Lama in France next month.

China's ambassador to France, Kong Quan, told reporters there would be "serious consequences" for Chinese-French relations if Sarkozy meets the Dalai Lama, asserting that it "would be contrary to the principle of noninterference in internal affairs."

Sarkozy has been vague on whether he would meet personally with the Dalai Lama, the spiritual leader-in-exile of Tibet, regarded by China as a renegade "splittist" who has advocated resistance to China's sovereignty.

China has repeatedly blamed the Dalai Lama and his subordinates for instigating anti-Chinese riots in Tibet three months ago and encouraging a boycott of the Beijing Olympics, which the Dalai Lama has denied. Representatives of both sides recently resumed suspended reconciliation talks.

France holds the presidency of the European Union, and Sarkozy has said that his attendance at the Aug. 8 opening ceremonies will depend on progress in those talks. The Dalai Lama's visit to France, for a conference on Buddhism, comes after the opening of the Olympics.

Report Urges Overhaul of U.S. War Powers Law

By **John M. Broder**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Two former secretaries of state, concluding that a 1973 measure limiting the president's ability to wage war unilaterally had never worked as intended, proposed on Tuesday a new system of closer consultation between the White House and Congress before U.S. forces go into battle.

Their proposal would require the president to consult senior lawmakers before initiating combat expected to last longer than a week, except for covert operations or rare cases requiring emergency action, in which case consultation would have to be undertaken within three days. Congress would have 30 days to approve the military action or, if it declined to do so, could then order it ended by disapproving it.

The plan would create a new committee of congressional leaders and relevant committee chairmen, with a full-time staff that would have access to military and intelligence material. The president would be required to consult with the group in advance of any major strike and regularly throughout any extended conflict.

The two former secretaries of state, Warren Christopher and James A. Baker III, oversaw a year-long bipartisan study of the tension over war powers that has vexed the U.S. government since its founding. In a report released on Tuesday, the study group concluded that the 1973 law, which is known as the War Powers Resolution and was adopted in the wake of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, was lacking in a number of regards.

North Korean Nuclear Talks To Resume Thursday

By **Choe Sang-Hun**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

The United States and other regional powers will resume talks with North Korea this week on ending the Communist state's nuclear weapons programs, a South Korean envoy said Tuesday.

The six-nation talks, the first in nine months, are to begin on Thursday, the South Korean envoy, Kim Sook, told reporters before flying to Beijing for the conference among the United States, the two Koreas, China, Japan and Russia.

A deadlock was broken late last month when North Korea submitted a long-delayed but partial account of its nuclear programs and the United States moved to take North Korea off its terrorism blacklist and relax some economic sanctions.

Kim said the new talks would focus on verifying the North's nuclear account, including the amount of plutonium the North has reported. But the envoys will also discuss speeding up the disabling of North Korea's main nuclear complex in return for fuel aid shipments.

North Korea has delayed removing spent fuel rods — a source of plutonium — from its main nuclear reactor while complaining that the other five nations had not provided the promised fuel aid in a timely fashion.

By **Clifford Krauss**

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HOUSTON

Oil prices headed in an unusual direction — down — for the second consecutive day on Tuesday, leaving energy experts to wonder whether the drop is the beginning of a lasting trend or just a brief pause before another surge.

Oil settled at \$136.04 a barrel, a drop of \$5.33, or 3.8 percent. Analysts said the immediate causes included the strengthening of the dollar in recent days and the apparent veering northward of Bertha, the first hurricane of the 2008 hurricane season, meaning it was likely to miss the oil and natural gas facilities in the Gulf of Mexico.

They also noted that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran had dismissed the possibility that war with the United States and Israel was imminent in remarks to reporters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, relieving worries that Iran might try to block oil shipments in the Strait of Hormuz.

The decline bolstered a rally in the

stock market, with the Dow Jones industrial average rising 152.25 points, or 1.36 percent, to 11,384.21. The broader Standard & Poor's 500-stock index ended up 1.71 percent, and the Nasdaq composite climbed 2.28 percent.

But even as a barrel of oil lost more than 6 percent of its value since the Fourth of July weekend, energy analysts warned that it was too soon to predict an outright collapse in prices. Some predicted that this was just one more in a series of pauses that has accompanied the volatile rise in oil prices from \$60 last summer and just below \$100 at the beginning of the year.

Others were just left bewildered.

Chip Johnson, the president and chief executive of Carrizo Oil and Gas, a Houston-based company, said he was "confused" by "such wild swings." But he added: "I can't see oil getting cheap again ever. It's just too hard to find, and too many people want to use it."

Any sustained decline in oil prices could help the consumer at a time when higher food and energy prices

have forced many to cut back spending on other goods. It could also help the ailing automotive and airline industries, lower the trade deficit and strengthen the dollar. Prices for gold, silver, copper and corn also dropped on Tuesday.

But the factors bringing down oil prices over the last two days could be short-lived. Traders have been using oil as a hedge against the dollar in recent years, and there is no assurance the dollar will strengthen for long if the economy further weakens. Another hurricane could develop at any time, and the strongest normally come in August and September. Tensions in the Middle East, Nigeria and other oil-producing areas can always erupt to put pressure on tight reserves.

"I don't think there has been any change in the overall direction of the oil market," said Addison Armstrong, director of market research at Tradition Energy, an energy broker that deals with banks and hedge funds. "The bias is still clearly to the upside, with \$150 firmly in the sights of traders."

OPINION



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Corrections

The June 13, 2008 article about a graduate student facing charges for breaking and entering gave misleading information about the prison term he may face. Though a sentence of up to 20 years in state prison is allowed under Massachusetts General Law, the Massachusetts Sentencing Guidelines make it difficult to impose more than a one year sentence for a first-time offender.

The same article misspelled the name of graduate student Michael P. Short's attorney. Short is represented by Steven J. Sack, not Fack. Sack also represented Kristina K. Brown '09 when she faced similar charges after being found in the Faculty Club in the middle of the night in 2006.

Exploration Doesn't Merit Incarceration

MIT has not yet issued a summons charging as felons two graduate students who were found in NW16 on the night of Saturday, June 7.

Editorial

Unlike last time — in February 2007, when we found out about charges filed in November 2006 over an October incident in the Faculty Club — it is not yet too late to stop another terrible mistake which will sour the relationship among students, the MIT Police, administrators, and the courts, a mistake which could irreparably damage students' futures.

Administrators should act swiftly to make sure that summonses are not issued, and they should act to have the district attorney drop charges pressed against a third student, Michael P. Short G.

The students do not seem to have committed the felony of "breaking and entering with intent to commit a felony," with which Short is charged; police have not explained what felony Short meant to commit. (The police report suggests they think Short meant to steal "parts.") Police would have to prove he intended to steal from NW16 in order for the other felony charge he faces, "possession of burglarious instruments," to hold water.

We do not think that these students are thieves. But we also think that judgments like this should not be tried in the press or the courts; judging the ethics of the students' actions should be a matter for MIT's Committee on Discipline. The Brandeis University graduate student traveling with Short should be handled by that university's Student Conduct System.

Short allegedly used a piece of an aluminum can — traditionally called a "shim" — to open a combination lock attached to a cage in the NW16 basement. Police, alerted by a motion-triggered alarm, found the three students in the cage. Although the police report says there's a history of theft in NW16, the list of possessions checked in as evidence upon Short's arrest doesn't seem to include any NW16 property.

The arrest is especially jarring because one of Short's companions is a graduate student in the Plasma Science and Fusion Center, which

is housed in NW16. And Short himself works in NW22, just two doors down. (The Brandeis graduate student is Short's girlfriend.)

You should expect to get in trouble at MIT if police find you looking around a place that was supposed to be locked. But you shouldn't face a felony conviction or years in prison for those actions.

MIT should be reasonable and get the courts out of the equation. Any ethical lapse on the students' part should be judged by MIT's and Brandeis's disciplinary processes.

To be sure, we have recently criticized the MIT Committee on Discipline for the secretive nature of its rulings and guidelines. By way of contrast, we praise Brandeis's Department of Student Development and Conduct, which has for three years provided case-by-case summaries of every incident it hears and every outcome. (For instance, see <http://www.brandeis.edu/studentlife/sdc/stats/summaries-06.html>.) Despite our misgivings about the MIT system, we still trust its judgment far more than the outcome of the Massachusetts criminal courts.

After the fiasco of the fall 2006 arrests, we had hoped things would be different. We had hoped the MIT administration would value its relationship with students, alumni, and faculty who support the Institute's hacking tradition and respect its established disciplinary processes. We had hoped that a year's worth of discussion about reasonable treatment of hackers would be fruitful, and that the new "official statement on hacking" would help students avoid felony charges for exploration.

But in the week following the incident, The Tech found key administrators, including Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75, seemingly unaware that a student had been arrested. And arresting officer Duane R. Keegan, who filed the complaint that led to Michael Short's felony charges, was one of the two officers responsible for the ill-considered fall 2006 felony charges against students found in the Faculty Club.

If MIT wants us to believe that its stance towards hacking has changed in two years, it must act immediately to get the charges against Short dismissed. Otherwise, the message will be clear: hackers will be treated as felons.



Opinion Policy

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Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter letters will

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ARTS

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★

*'WALL-E' a Winner for Kids, Adults, and Robots**Humor, Detail, and Subtlety Flesh Out Latest Pixar Project*

By Andrew Lee

STAFF WRITER

WALL-E

Directed by Andrew Stanton

Written by Andrew Stanton, Peter Docter, and Jim Reardon

Starring Ben Burtt, Elissa Knight, Sigourney Weaver, and Jeff Garlin

Rated G

Now Playing

For Pixar, selling their next movie is as easy as putting the phrase "From the makers of ____" on a poster with the implicit promise that it's going to entertain as much as *Finding Nemo* or *The Incredibles*. Like clockwork, it invariably does, and it's hard to stress enough the fact that these people never simply coast by on the reputation of their brand. Since I'm prone to exaggeration, I could compare the firsthand enjoyment of Pixar's decade-long hit parade to what it must've felt like to listen to each of the Beatles' albums as they were being released. If you think of *WALL-E* in that context, it's more Magical Mystery Tour than Sgt. Pepper. It may not hang with the best of its peers, but it's more than worthy of induction into the Pixar canon.

The film begins slowly and stays that way for a good 10 minutes, and I mean that in a very good sense. We're introduced to the planet Earth through a series of drifting birds-eye shots of dusty, abandoned skyscrapers. Clearly, it seems, we're dealing with some sort of post-apocalyptic scenario, but in reality the human race simply ran out of space to put its crap. As live-action video billboards proclaim, everyone's gone out on extended vacation while the retail conglomerate "Buy 'n Large" does some planet-wide tidying. For whatever reason, all that's left of this massive housecleaning force is the titular protagonist, a precocious garbage-compacter robot who takes the junk cubes that pop out of his chest and stacks them into massive towers day in and day out.

BOOK REVIEW

*Re: Scamming the Scammers**Bob Servant Gives Spam Artists a Taste of Their Medicine*

By Sarah Dupuis

SENIOR EDITOR

Delete This at Your Peril: One Man's Fearless Exchanges with the Internet Spammers

By Bob Servant (Neil Forsyth)

Published by Aurum Press Ltd

Now Available

<http://www.bobservant.com/>

I have to admit, I'm somewhat partial to spam e-mail. Everyone says it's a pain in the ass and they all spend money on programs to prevent it from entering their precious inboxes. But I say bring the spam on! It's usually funny, sometimes poetic, and apparently, you can have a pretty good time responding to it. As far as responding to these e-mails goes, I've thought about it before and decided I probably have better things to do with my time. Luckily, author Neil Forsyth doesn't, and he's

The wordlessness of our introduction to WALL-E makes the film initially come across as one of Pixar's animated shorts extended to feature-length. It's so gorgeously shot, however, that I really couldn't complain. Some of the most memorable sequences for me were the ones where WALL-E scoots serenely past the wreckage of our civilization sprawled across a sun-blasted wasteland. I was worried that I might hate how precious the little guy would come across as, but his personality quirks are genuine and endearing. WALL-E's fascination with Technicolor showtunes on VHS is adorable while his blasé attitude towards cannibalizing fallen comrades for body parts is both funny and disturbing.

A plot has to arrive sometime, however, and it comes in the form of a human-sent probe called EVE that sparks a longing within WALL-E's circuit-board heart for her companionship. The romance is as believable as robot love gets (though a little heavy on the "WALL-E!" "EVE-UH!" back-and-forths), and the ensuing spaceship adventure is a visual feast for the eyes. But neither aspect of the story quite hits a home run with its payoff.

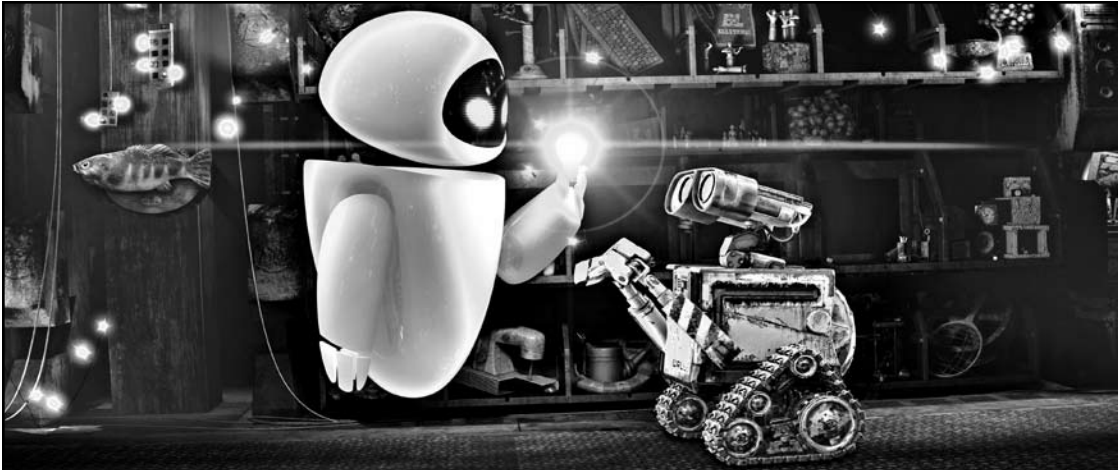
The human race is eventually encountered, but the tone with which they're depicted is muddled. They are a little too easily redeemed for my taste given the catastrophe they created back on Earth and ignored for so long. Without giving too much away, I think it's a missed opportunity for the film to portray humans as victims of their own technology (too ingenious for their own good) instead of creatures with a disappointing tendency to do or create anything that fosters a sense of blissful

written an entire book about scamming the scammers.

In *Delete This at Your Peril*, Forsyth has carefully created a universe in which he responds to the e-mails under the pseudonym Bob Servant, an eccentric Scottish Cheeseburger magnate and part-time window washer. The exchanges between Servant and the junk mailers vary in content, but all reflect the stuff that goes into your Spamscreen on the daily. Haven't you gotten e-mails from the lawyer of a wealthy foreign nobleman who has passed on and left you

a large amount of money? All the lawyer needs in order to wire the abandoned funds directly to you is your social security number. Or perhaps you've heard from some stunningly gorgeous Russian female in need of a husband (and that husband's bank account information). It's all bullshit of course, but the schemes must work sometimes, or else the scammers wouldn't keep sending them. Enter Bob Servant, whose game plan is to stop spam by spamming back.

And these scammers truly have no clue what they're up against. Forsyth's character Servant



COURTESY OF DISNEY/PIXAR

The last robot on earth, WALL-E, is fascinated by EVE's ability to turn on an incandescent light bulb.

ignorance. *WALL-E* makes a couple cute 2001 homages here and there, but it neglects the deeper, darker Kubrickian theme of humanity as a race paradoxically bent towards its own demise.

Obviously, this is supposed to be a kid's movie, but it's not like Pixar hasn't set a precedent for family movies with more subtle undercurrents. One of my favorites, *Toy Story 2*, grappled with the concept of immortality through the lens of a puppet cowboy's decision to stay with his owner instead of being enshrined in a museum. In the case of *WALL-E*, the ending is a little too tidy for its own good. Pixar may have erred a little on the side of more broad appeal at the expense of that extra layer of poignancy that has elevated some of their movies in the past.

That said, there are a few areas in which Pixar cannot be beat; namely, their attention to detail and brilliant sense of humor. Just watching WALL-E's camera-lens eyes twitch and calibrate, or seeing the obsessive-compulsive maintenance-bot zoom his view onto a spot of un-scrubbed dirt, is a joy. Try this for an exer-

cise as well: watch anything but the characters in the foreground. The world that Pixar has put to screen is so completely and creatively realized that I guarantee you'll still find something to entertain you.

The original teaser trailer to *WALL-E* gave a glimpse into its genesis way back in 1994 alongside those of such Pixar classics as *Monsters, Inc.* and *A Bug's Life*. That vignette not only reminds the viewer that, yes, this movie is going to be as good and maybe better than those movies you love, but that all these movies represent the artistic vision of a small nucleus of people like Andrew Stanton and John Lasseter who are willing to stamp their name as director of an animated film just like it was any other kind of film and proceed accordingly. Thanks to that creative ethos, those films are often better than any other kind. *WALL-E* isn't the best Pixar film, but that's the only way in which it doesn't succeed, and I can't think of any other family movie in recent memory that's made the entire audience sit through most of the credits solely out of respect for what they just saw.

is a screwball with an affinity for alcohol, kidnappings, jungle cats, and "jazz mags." He's happy to over-indulge the business-minded spammers with excessive details about his life and fair-weather friends (Chappy Williams and Frank Theplank, to name a couple); he'll recount crazy run-ins with the law, ask the fraudsters for advice about his relationship with the postman, and barrage them so thoroughly with nonsense that, in the end, the spammers are pushed to the limits of their patience.

Delete This at Your Peril weaves a witty, idiosyncratic universe into the concept of getting back at the bad guys. Though it might just seem like a simple do-it-yourself guide to getting Internet revenge, it's actually a very good story, subversively told. All the better, the saga of Servant vs. Spammers continues weekly via his e-mail newsletter; check him out online for some more anti-spam inspiration.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★

*Living Passionately After Tiananmen**'Summer Palace' Portrays a Generational Coming-of-Age*

By Praveen Rathinavelu

ARTS EDITOR

Summer Palace

Directed by Ye Lou

Written by Ye Lou, Feng Mei, and Ma Yingli

Starring Lei Hao and Xiaodong Guo

Now in Theaters and on DVD in Limited Release

Ye Lou's *Summer Palace* chronicles the collective rise and fall of a generation of Chinese youth: it lumbers through its nearly two-and-a-half hours on the back of a young woman, Yu Hong (played by Lei Hao), from her dense, passionate college years to the bleak, depleted years of adulthood that follow.

But for Lou's film, history and dates are crucial. *Summer Palace* doesn't trace the strug-

gles and flourishes of an unspecified Chinese generation, but what is arguably the generation. Set prominently on the Beijing University campus among the political turmoil of the late '80s, *Summer Palace* moves through its first half with the weight and anticipation of Tiananmen Square always present. When the moment does arrive — students jumping into the back of trucks, bracing for protest — the depicted bloodshed is sparse, with the film focusing on the confusion and uncertainty that occurred on the periphery of the incident.

Confusion and uncertainty may, in fact, be the emotional anchor of *Summer Palace*, from its opening moments of adolescent passion, to its ardent, steamy college years, to the final dreary, matter-of-fact sexual encounters of postgraduate life (sex is, clearly, another thematic anchor of the film). In the film, Yu Hong

moves through a seemingly unending series of relationships with actions and decisions that are reckless, confusing, and hardly build up to any definitive understanding of her character. While this portrayal of youthful indecision is hardly a stretch, it is nevertheless frustrating that, by the end of the film, we are left with nothing to hold onto (unless you count the vague melancholy and resignation of its characters).

Summer Palace is strongest when it is depicting Yu Hong's first year in Beijing University. The bars, dances, idealism, and romance of college is almost pain-

fully unoriginal (see: anything about the French student protests of 1968), and often feels a bit romanticized, but Lou does it well. But in the wake of Tiananmen, the characters are barraged

by a formidable series of heartbreaks (abortions, suicides, a collective feeling of resignation) that hold little narrative substance. They seem more structured to produce hazy emotions than concrete examples. Of course it's likely that after experiencing a few years of postgraduate life, the bleak second half of Lou's film will feel more tangible, more relatable. It's not really something to look forward to.

'Summer Palace' moves through its first half with the weight and anticipation of Tiananmen Square always present.

CAMPUS LIFE

Squid vs. Whale

The Lake House Getaway 2008 MVP Awards

By Charles Lin

CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Hello, everyone, and thank you for coming to the MVP Award Ceremony for last weekend's Lake House Getaway 2008. The weekend was a total success and I'm glad everyone could make it. I think we all deserve a pat on the back for navigating those hazy waters of lounging and relaxation without a hitch. It could have been worse. There was a lot of passive aggressive tension brewing and I'm just glad we didn't have it out on the patio by the grill. Kudos to my main men — you know who you are — for deflating the situation with well-timed belches and hilarious quoting of lines from Judd Apatow movies.

As I reflect on the awesomeness of last weekend, I can't help but think how indebted we are to Sarah for letting us crash at her lake house and providing all of the comforts for 72 hours of good times. You rock, Sarah. Those organic eggs you got from your friend's farm rocked too.

Before we hand out this weekend's MVP award, I'd like to stress just how much of this weekend's success was a team effort. That's right, WE managed to enjoy that nice breezes and scenic views, and WE managed to turn tubing on the lake into the sweetest ride of 2008. We couldn't have done it without our collective commitment to our mantra of "DOING IT LIVE" so give yourselves all a round of applause.

Now, without further ado. The award for Most Valuable Player at the 2008 Lake House Getaway goes to ... The Poland Springs Water Jug. Come up and receive your reward! That's right. You delivered by far the most clutch performance. With your 2.5 gallon carrying capacity and easy to use spout, you first provided us with much needed water in our hour of need.

While beer was plentiful, water was not. Curse you, beer, for actually causing dehydration even though you are made of liquid goodness. The sun was blazing; our throats were dry. We couldn't go to the taps in the house, for they drew water directly from the lake and we had all seen that episode of "House" about how amoebas can eat your brain stem. But we were thirsty; we needed water.

Just when we were about to give in to the amoeba soup, Sarah brought you down from the B&B up the road. You saved us then. More importantly, you saved our brain stems from a slow and agonizing demise.

Then when you were empty, you became the answer to our prayers. With you, we could carry 2.5 gallons of beer down to the dock with relative ease. I can't even begin to describe how grateful we are for your service. The way you held beer for us, with the spout on the bottom, meant that we could have foam free beer in a matter of seconds. You were like a keg for our keg, except you did things no keg could.

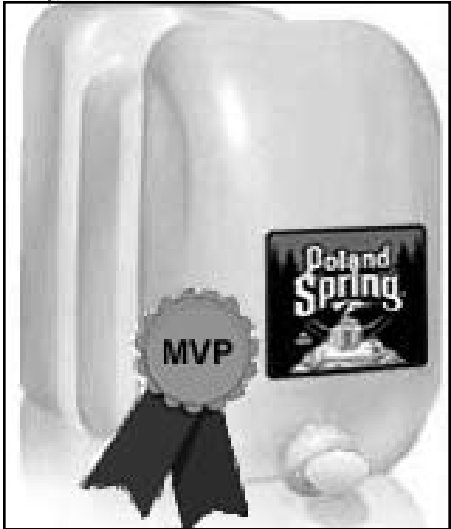
Your ergonomic handle meant repeated trips

from the dock to the house for refills were a cinch. Your durable construction allowed us to take you onto the boat and hide you under the seat. When we were tubing from the motorboat and hopping over wakes at 30 miles per hour, you held fast. When the splashes from our solo cup drenched the bow of the boat, you spilled not a drop. You gave us influence and spirit in our motor boating endeavors, and when at last you were empty, we knew then it was time to return to the dock to regroup and refill.

Poland Springs Water Jug, you have no idea how amazing you are. Don't let anyone ever bring you down. I know some people might say the keg is flashier or the bottle opener more versatile, but it's all half truths and lies. You, and only you, made the weekend what it was. You carried us in our partying hour of need, and for that we thank you, Poland Springs Water Jug.

Long after this weekend, your memory will live on in our hearts and livers. Long after you have been melted into plastic goo, we will cherish the good times we had together. We will listen to Credence Clearwater Revival and think of you, oh Poland Springs Water Jug. We will always remember how you gave yourselves to us and brightened up our weekend.

It was sad when we had to place you in the recycling bin, but there's hope in our hearts. Chances are you will be recycled into another Poland Springs Water Jug. And then, we must hope, hope with every fiber of our being, that



your plastic fibers will be reunited with us at Lake House Getaway 2009.

Until then, Poland Springs Water Jug, take this MVP award as a token of our thanks. We salute you.

That wraps up this year's award. I want to thank each and every one of you for taking the time from your busy schedules to come this weekend. I know it was hard to stash away our Blackberries and enjoy the sunshine, but thanks to you, Poland Springs Water Jug, we did it. We did it.

By Christine Yu

Dear Facebook,

We have a problem. I just realized that our relationship status is "It's Complicated." And for some reason, I can't seem to break up with you. It's not that we're in an open relationship either. MySpace and I already broke up. He's creepier than you.

Unfortunately, you're almost as much of a pedophile. You seduced me when I was only a preffrosh. You lured me in with false help — or should I say, false hope — when it came to MIT men. I truly thought that the random friend requests — and pokes — showed the kindness of MIT guys. This naive thinking led me to believe that MIT was swarming with eligible bachelors. If you're laughing already, I realize that I deserve it.

Now I've realized the dire conditions of finding Mr. Right on campus. The guy who seemed really cute at the time just used a Chinese Glamour Shot. Guys should never mislead a girl with makeup, that's just wrong on so many

levels. The guy who seemed well read probably used Sparknotes. It's a general indication that if you're "madly" in love with an author, you should be able to discuss works that aren't canon. Finally — and possibly the worst revelation — the guy who seemed really romantic, the total package, ended up being just a creep. "I'm in an open relationship — it's not cheating if you use a condom," his words verbatim. I think I've said enough there.

Even after a few disappointments, I still believed it was just bad luck. Definitely, not you, Facebook. Then, our relationship just kept getting worse. Somewhere in the middle of first term, I actually had an epiphany. It dawned on me that guys used my Facebook page to find out my general interests to feign compatibility. Why it took so long for me to realize this clearly shows why I am not a rocket scientist.

To make matters worse, I found out about Facebook poking around the same time. I never realized that there were further implications to it until a random graduate student poked me. Of

course, I poked him back without thinking twice about it. Usually, guys would just friend me after completing the deed — except, this guy was audacious. Then again, he was a Harvard graduate student. He sent me the message, "Hey, so, when do you want to fuck?" Lesson learned there: Don't poke random strangers back, especially if their profile says they have an Asian fetish.

Finally, the worst part of our relationship: you force me to acknowledge real life relationships. Everyone has an obsession with the idea of "Facebook Official". When I "married" my best friend as a joke, people in my hometown thought that I was actually married. Someone even called my parents. After explaining to my parents that I did not run off to Vegas, I realized just how seriously people take these titles. According to me, I've only had three boyfriends — one, influential. According to Facebook, that's like a Hemmingway understatement. My love life used to change so frequently that I wanted the permanent option, "Temporarily in a Fling". Except, no guy wants to acknowledge he's tem-

porary — sometimes even hacking my account just to change my Relationship Status. (Reason why I don't date Course VIers. That and the well-known fact many don't shower.)

However, our relationship has some good. You're a double edge sword. There's a benefit to networking — beyond the work connections. A close friend of mine got a friend request after a party with a message, "Yes, we used a condom last night." If it weren't for Facebook, she never would've found out. However, if they had been friends already, this embarrassing scenario would've been avoided. Then again, at least, they used a condom. I wonder what he would've said otherwise? Perhaps, "I gave you herpes last night."

Nice way to start a friendship.

So, Facebook, it's not you — it's me. Actually, never mind, it really is you. You're just kind of creepy, yet I can't seem to break up with you.

Yours truly, until I can finally dump you, Christine

Ramblings From Hell

Why Did We Ever Call Them Freedom Fries?

By S. Campbell Proehl

STAFF COLUMNIST

When was the last time you felt like a stranger in a strange land? And an unwanted stranger at that?

I am living with some French roommates for the summer in an apartment in Beijing (I'm here through MISTI-China). To every American who buys into anti-French propaganda: get over yourselves. The French have done some things correctly. They have a right to look at us like we're crazy because, frankly, we are. Compared to them, we seem to have done everything wrong. We are fatter, more stressed, unhappier, less environmentally friendly, and generally poorer cooks than the French.

In honor of these great people and their putting up with me, "The American," I have decided to share with you some lessons that Americans can learn. If you are extremely conservative, both politically and socially, don't hate what I'm about to tell you. Keep an open mind. Dance. Eat a baguette, and enjoy the lessons of the French.

1) **Lose weight by eating more.** The French look forward to their meals in the same way MIT students anticipate their three day weekends. Every time I arrived at work with my French roommate, I found myself wondering by 10 a.m. what we would be eating that day. At 2 p.m., I began pondering what my roommates would concoct for dinner, because it was so mouth-wateringly delicious (they made dishes like Ratatouille, eggplant lasagna, baked chicken with caramelized onions).

I started eating twice the amount I would ever eat for dinner at home. We always ate freshly cooked food, even if it was fattier than anything I would have eaten in the U.S. (They scowled when they found out I had been storing Instant Mac and Cheese in the cabinet.)

And yet, I have lost something like four pounds in a month because the French only use fresh foods and eat mostly fruit for dessert. If Americans got off the couch and started cooking some vegetables instead of eating KFC or McDonald's, they might look more slim and beautiful too.

2) **Do not stress out. Under any circumstances. Ever.** When I told my roommates about a typical day and week at MIT, they looked at me with such looks of pity that you would have thought someone ran over my beagle puppy twice and then fed it to a coyote for fun. The French do not stress. Work is not worth worrying about, because it's only one tiny aspect of their lives. They come home to family and friends, cook their meals, relax, and then start thinking about the work they have to do. Or they don't think about it until they go back to work the next day. Worry is not a worthwhile effort for them; it's almost as if they see it as a threat to their freedom. There are more important things in life, like dancing.

3) **Weekends are for dancing your heart out.** I have accompanied my roommates to a French restaurant and a salsa club almost every weekend since I have been in Beijing. To return to the eating for a second: we sat at the restaurant, drank Pastis, ate bread and butter,

and main courses of red meat and mustard tarts followed by chocolate mousse for four hours. But I still didn't gain any weight, because afterwards, we burned everything we just ate by dancing. The restaurant moved its tables and chairs to the side, and the patrons danced for at least two hours after the meal.

Two weeks ago we entered the restaurant and my roommates said hello to a friend wearing a neck brace. After we sat down I asked them what happened. "Car accident?" "No, too much dancing," they answered. Here's a secret for all of those Americans who think they can't dance if they're not behind closed doors: the French aren't always great dancers either. But they don't care, because it's fun and that is all that matters.

4) **You have to support your fellow countrymen.** (Don't read this section if you're a Republican.) One of my roommates told me her family was in the lowest income bracket and thus they were not taxed. Her father and mother were both bus drivers at one time, and yet they still have a house and two cars and enough money that they can pay for fresh food for their children and vacations once in a while. She said she knew that the only reason she was able to live the way she did was because other people were paying for it, but that was the way it had to be. Everyone has an obligation to everyone else, and everyone has a right to a comfortable life, no matter their job. Some Americans may be disgusted by this, but if you think about the fact that France's rate of incarceration is about seven times lower than

that of the U.S. (normalized for population, so you can't use the argument that they have less people), it seems like providing the people with what they need and making sure they aren't up to their eyeballs in debt has paid off. Maybe French society isn't perfect, but it's a lot more perfect than America.

5) **Contrary to the Republican belief, promoting safe sex actually lowers teen pregnancy rates.** On average, French women lose their virginity later than American women. They have a deep sense of self-respect, and they usually wait until they have a serious boyfriend to plunge into anything. But more importantly, everyone uses birth control because it is cheap, easily obtainable, and encouraged by parents.

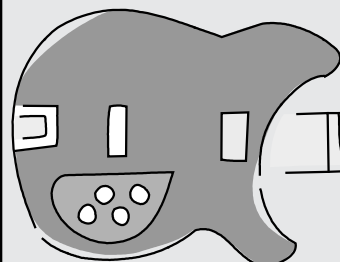
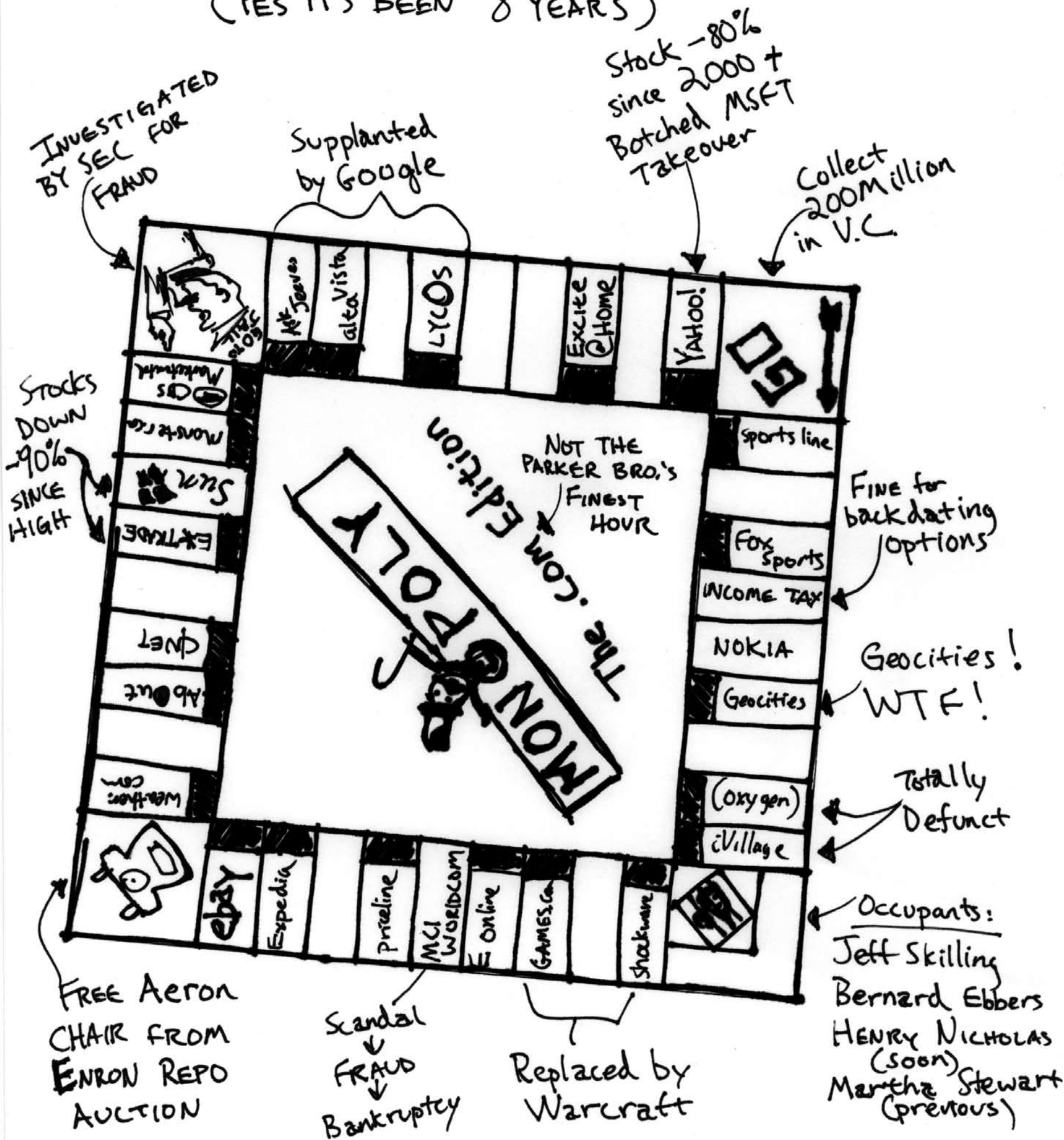
In addition to contraceptives, most parents allow and even encourage their high school age children's boyfriends and girlfriends to spend the night at their house. When I first heard this, my jaw dropped. "You mean your mother let you sleep at your boyfriend's house? In his bed? In high school?" "Of course," my roommate answered, "She knew we were dating and we were in love. She knew we were safe that way." The boyfriend or girlfriend helps the parents cook dinner, and when everyone wakes up, the whole family (plus significant other) eats breakfast. Everyone sits together, and the parents are supportive and accepting of the relationship. The result? Lower teen pregnancy rates, increased family time, and no reason for parents to worry that their children are being pressured into anything.

So why exactly do we hate the French?

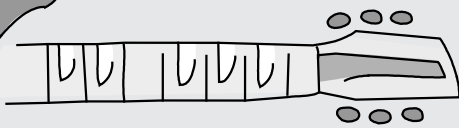
The Flow of Things

MONOPOLY The .com edition

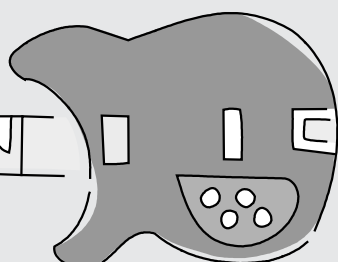
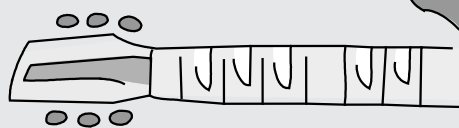
AN 8 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE
(YES IT'S BEEN 8 YEARS)



We have Guitar Hero 3 and 1050 watts of audio.

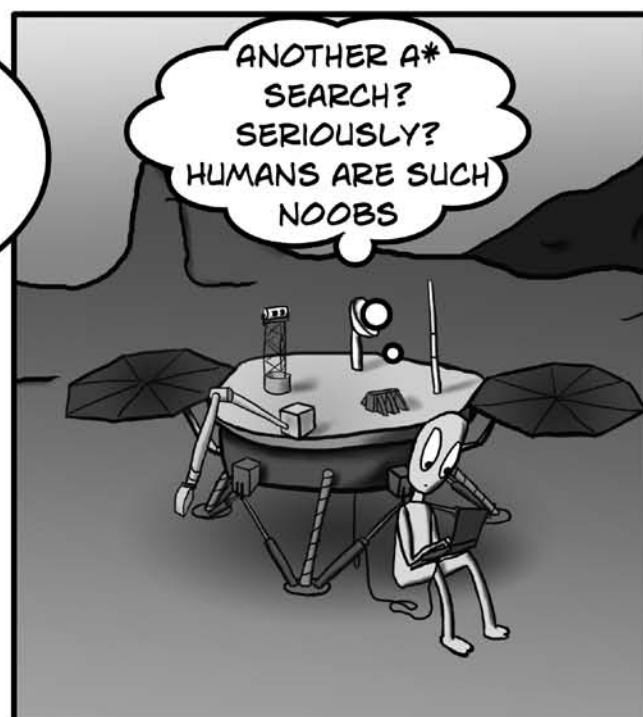


join@tech.mit.edu



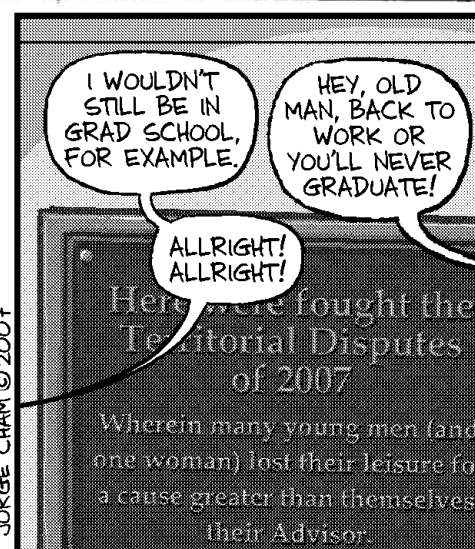
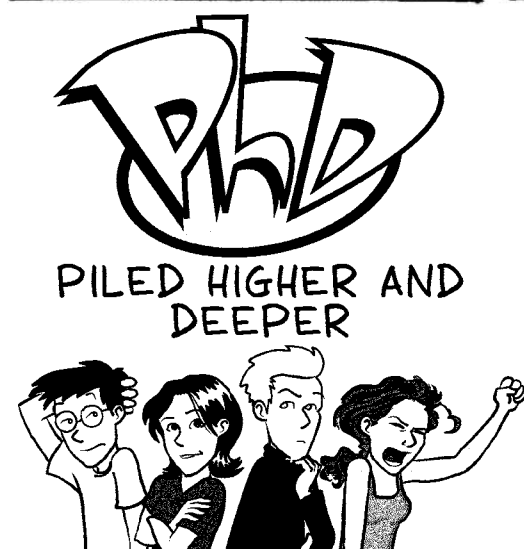
Steal My Comic

by Michael Ciuffo

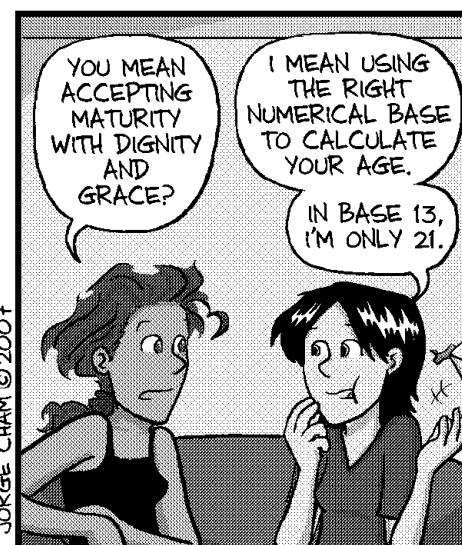
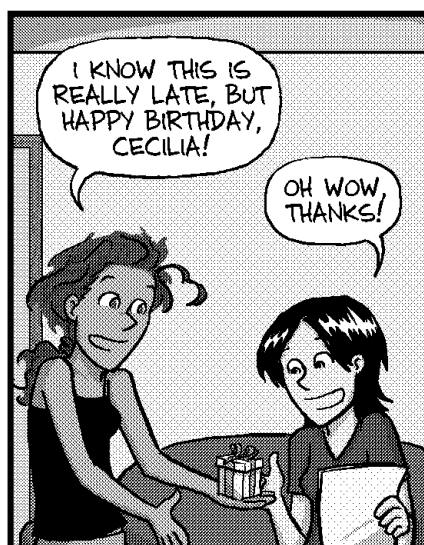
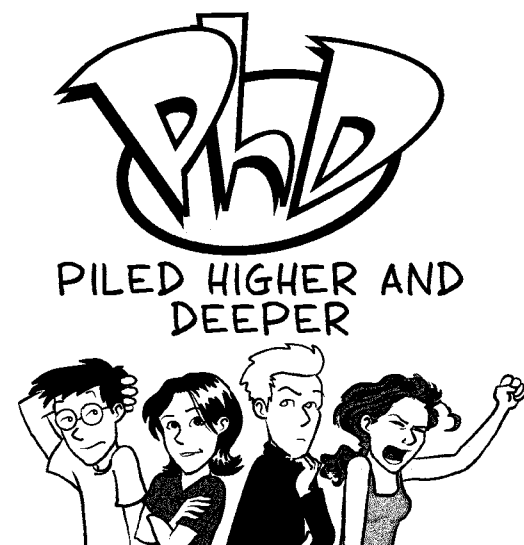


Theory of Pete

by Cai GoGwilt



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

Doonesbury Flashbacks

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

Dilbert® by Scott Adams



ALEX H. CHAN—THE TECH

(clockwise from top left)

Grammy Award-winning Rascal Flatts play at the Hatch Shell during the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular on July 4.

Workers of Pyro Spectaculars Inc. load fireworks shells into firing tubes on the Charles River barge on July 2.

Friday’s fireworks display by Pyro Spectaculars Inc. is seen from the roof of the Green Building.

MIT students and friends watch the fireworks display from the penthouse of McCormick Hall on July 4.

Keith Lockhart, longtime conductor for the Boston Pops, tries to set a record for the most people singing “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” at the Hatch Shell on July 4.

Fireworks are launched from the Charles River barge in front of the Boston skyline on July 4.

Boston Celebrates the Fourth of July With Music and Fireworks



DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH





DAVID M. TEMPLETON—THE TECH



JERZY SZABLOWSKI—THE TECH



DAVID RESHEF—THE TECH



MICHAEL Y. MCCANNA—THE TECH

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 14

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15						16		
17					18							19		
20				21							22			
			23					24	25					
26	27	28				29	30	31						
32					33									
34					35						36	37	38	
			39	40						41	42			
43	44	45						46						
47								48						
49						50	51	52				53	54	55
56				57	58						59			
60				61						62				
63				64						65				

DOWN

- 1 Black, to Blake
2 Last breath
3 Memorial Day race, briefly
4 Eccentric piece
5 Juneau man
6 Decree
7 Sole
8 Nips in the bud
9 Take a chair
10 I doubt it!
11 Oil-rich seed
12 Hemoglobin deficiency
13 Ribs
18 Nuremberg negative
19 Wear away
23 ETs’ transport
24 Goes on to say
25 Nothing

- 26 Silent assent
27 Bambi’s aunt
28 Hair purchase
29 Filth
30 Like pads and parkas
31 Twin Cities suburb
35 Street of stables
36 Fat farm
37 Fleur-de-__
38 Praiseful poem
39 Clarinetist Shaw
40 “The Gold Bug” author
41 Hone
42 Avant-garde artist
43 Speak wildly
44 Papal vestments
45 TV oldies
46 Outline
50 Skier’s lift

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution on page 14.

© Puzzles by Pappocom

1				9				
	6				3	1		
				2			4	9
8		4				3		
	3						2	
		2				5		6
6	9			3				
		7	4				9	
				5				7

Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>

- 51 Up to the task
52 Roger Rabbit, for example
53 Lollapalooza
54 Salon set
55 High: pref.
57 Fix a roulette wheel?
58 Simpson judge
59 __ Dhabi

ACROSS

- 1 Author Jong
6 Meat
11 Posed
14 Hackneyed
15 Ephesus location

- 16 Compass dir.
17 Hemingway novel, with “The”
20 Napoleon’s commander at Waterloo
21 Web stops
22 Butts
23 HI guitar
24 Loss of self-confidence
26 Innovative concepts, to some
32 Pungent bulb
33 Conundrum
34 Hammarskjold of the U.N.
35 Revealing skirts
36 __-mo

- 39 Tarzan wannabes
41 Tasty
43 Plagiarized?
47 Rocky ridges
48 Indy segment
49 Italian seaport
50 Mongol invader
53 Rationers of WWII
56 Elite group of experts
60 Writer Deighton
61 Fascist Balbo
62 Chicago-based film critic
63 Slalom starter?
64 Bridge expert
65 Paavo the Flying Finn

Bonus Puzzle

Solution, page 17

ACROSS

- 1 Part of LED
6 Penultimate
11 Unsettle
14 Auxiliary building
15 Tapered end
16 Inarticulate comment
17 Start of a quip
19 Not, to a Scot
20 Red or White team
21 Rocker Ocasek
22 Worker’s tote
24 “Barnaby Jones” star
26 Failed to
27 Part 2 of quip
32 Actor Hawke
33 Prom goer
34 Clerical vestment
37 __ a one (none)
38 U.S.-Mex.-Can. union

- 40 Not in
41 Actor Wallach
42 Canon competitor
43 Perfume allure
44 Part 3 of quip
48 Cosmetic injection
50 Basketball coach Pat
51 Down Under bunch
54 Cap with a pom-pom
55 Publishing grp.
58 Utmost degree
59 End of quip
62 Bother
63 Daisylike flower
64 Really delight in
65 Chop off
66 Approaches
67 Put on clothes

DOWN

- 1 Speaker’s

- platform
2 Lowdown
3 Cameo stone
4 __ volente
5 Like distant subdivisions
6 Actress Sissy
7 Very long time
8 Kitchen glove
9 Water/wine transition
10 Was atop
11 Cabinet catchall
12 From the top
13 Clark’s role of a lifetime
18 Green Bay’s st.
23 Lucy of “Charlie’s Angels”
24 Auction site
25 Unjust
27 Kelly or Krupa
28 List ender
29 Second-hand store

- 30 Kind of profit
31 Vote for
35 Clark’s Lois
36 Eight bits
38 Young louse
39 24-hr. cash source
40 Sore
42 __ jumping bean
43 Like pipes and flowers
45 Dawn goddess
46 Indian guitars
47 Dispatch the dragon
48 Trite
49 Better
52 Lighten
53 Mlle. of Madrid
55 Feed the kitty
56 A/C figures
57 Eurasian vipers
60 For every
61 Pierced lobe

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
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48	49							50						
51					52	53		54				55	56	57
58					59			60			61			
62					63					64				
65					66						67			

Extra Puzzle

Solution, page 17

ACROSS

- 1 Staff note
5 Eggs on
10 What a pity!
14 Arkin or West
15 Sri Lanka cash
16 Vegas rival
17 Spring insect
19 Flirtatious girl
20 City south of Gainesville
21 With regret
23 Removes part of an organ
26 Classic leader?
27 Escape
30 John Calvin’s successor
33 Compass pt.
36 King of France
37 Wrathful
38 Theme of this puzzle
43 Computer

- language
44 Grade of wine
45 Drink cubes
46 Only Mercury, Gemini and Apollo astronaut
51 Andress film
52 Jamaican beat
53 Questioner
57 Plow handle?
59 Butt heads
60 Part of BYOB
63 Courthouse in Minot, ND
66 Go gingerly
67 Key of “Eroica”
68 Judge
69 Ragout
70 Feats
71 Latin 101 word

DOWN

- 1 Military officer
2 Bring out

- 3 River of Bhutan
4 Egg dish
5 Start to mature?
6 Wish otherwise
7 Selects, with “for”
8 Presidential middle name
9 Garden apparatus
10 Military force
11 Waikiki garland
12 __ Arbor, MI
13 Red or White team
18 Baroque master
22 “My Fair Lady” composer
24 Actress Garr
25 Lampblack
27 Son of Basil I
28 Quetzalcoatl worshipper
29 Olympic skiing brothers
31 Jettison

- 32 Bikini part
33 Cabbage salads
34 Psalms ender
35 Colonel’s insignia
39 TN team member
40 “Family Ties” mother
41 Source for repros
42 Prickly husk
47 Distorted
48 Jug cousin
49 Anticrime acronym
50 Refer indirectly
54 Bowling sites
55 Sen. Kefauver
56 What Kix and Trix do
57 Started a gunfight
58 Perry’s creator
60 Sycophant’s word
61 Granola bar bit
62 Put to work
64 Old man
65 Short change?

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
20								21		22				
23						24	25		26			27	28	29
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51				52				53				54	55	56
			57					58		59				
60	61	62			63			64	65					
66					67						68			
69					70						71			

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MIT Grad Jobless, Selling Himself the Old-Fashioned Way

By **Cyrus Sanati**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Joshua S. Persky '81, an out-of-work investment banker, has been hunting for a job on Wall Street for more than six months. Recently he got so frustrated he decided to get a little creative.

Last week, Persky, 48, stood on Park Avenue, handing out resumes to passers-by and wearing a sandwich board that said, "Experienced MIT Grad for Hire." The sign included his name and contact information.

He picked a busy spot, with several hundred people passing him every hour. And he did not look bitter or angry standing in the summer heat. Instead, he was smiling and standing tall, wearing his best suit under the placards.

A few looked and snickered when they passed by him, but most paid no attention. Some gave him sympathetic looks. A few even took a resume.

But these days, jobs on Wall Street are scarce — and getting more so. Worldwide, banks, and securities firms have cut more than 80,000 jobs. Persky worked at Houlihan Lokey for two years, but when that firm began to cut back last December, he said, his contract was not renewed.

Still, a couple of young brokers who passed Persky said they thought his unorthodox methods would pay off. One said Persky had a "first mover's advantage" and that "all this press coverage will probably get him a job." His colleague agreed, saying, "Yeah, there is no question that it is going to work."

It certainly generated some attention. Persky was interviewed by many major news outlets and appeared on Fox and MSNBC. His story went global — "I get e-mails saying I am famous in Korea," he said. He recently did a radio program that aired in Bogota, Colombia, and even appeared on the cover of a financial magazine in Greece.

"It was an amazing experience" Persky said this week. "I went to the corner of 50th and Park Avenue to hand out some resumes, and overnight I became world-famous."

"The outpouring of interest and

support was overwhelming — but I still need a job," he said.

Persky has had some luck on that front. He recently had one interview with a boutique investment bank and has another one lined up at a hedge fund. MIT alumni have contacted Persky and have tried to help him in his job search. One alumnus said that if he would move to Denver that he could probably find a place for him.

So things are looking a bit brighter for Persky — but nothing solid yet. Nevertheless, he has received hundreds of e-mail messages and phone calls from well-wishers and companies wanting to find out more about him, which puts him in a better position than where he started.

It hasn't been all roses, though.

By broadcasting his phone number and contact information around the world he has drawn attention from some nasty people. "I got some late-night phone calls from some young, probably investment banking analysts or associates, probably drunk, screaming obscenities and telling me to give my degree back," Persky said. "There were probably several dozen of those."

"The only seriously negative one was a fellow who walked up to me in the street and said, 'There are people at MIT that don't like what you are doing — they don't like the fact that MIT is on your sign.'" It was not clear if the man was a fellow MIT alumnus.

Persky says he has not received any negative e-mail or phone calls from MIT alumni; rather, he says, "it is quite the opposite." In fact, he just received a phone call from the institute's entrepreneurs club to speak to the group about his experience.

But time is ticking down for Persky. He said last week that if he did not find a job within a month he would pack up and move to his wife's hometown of Omaha, Neb., to "start a new life." His wife, Cynthia, left last week with their two children, leaving Persky in New York to interview, while he stays with a friend.

"If I don't have anything by early August," he said, "I guess I will have to book a ticket to Omaha."



ROBERTO RONDANELLI—THE TECH

A video still shows lightning striking a crane at the Media Lab Extension construction site, as seen from Eastgate Apartments on June 27.

Obituaries

Jane McNabb

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Jane McNabb, a 47-year employee at MIT's Department of Meteorology and Physical Oceanography — a precursor to the Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences — died on Saturday, May 24. She was 84.

McNabb, of Boston and Natick, worked as an administrator in the department that would combine with the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences to form EAPS. She spent almost five decades at MIT — from 1951 until 1998 — and in 1993 was recognized with the James N. Murphy Award for her inspired and dedicated work at the Institute.

Joseph F. Kuchta

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Joseph F. Kuchta, who spent almost 40 years with MIT as a safety officer and later golf coach, and who was renowned for his work with Alpha Phi Omega and other charitable organizations, died on Monday, June 23. He was 88.

Out of high school, Kuchta enrolled in the Navy, where he spent 10 years on active duty. Upon his honorable discharge, he enrolled in, and later graduated from Tufts University in 1952.

After graduation, he came to MIT to work on researching fuel elements for nuclear submarines. While doing that work, his Navy medical training led his superiors to rely on him for their safety procedures and first aid issues. Kuchta would go on to consult numerous departments and facilities on safety issues before moving to the Safety Office full time in the early 1960s.

Kuchta retired from the Safety Office in 1986, only to

take on the role of golf coach from Jack Barry in 1995. He retired a second time in 2003, but even then remained active at MIT.

Kuchta first became involved in Alpha Phi Omega through the Alpha Chi chapter at MIT and its affiliation with the New England wheelchair games in 1968. Alpha Chi was building temporary wheelchair ramps on the MIT campus; as safety officer, and just helping out, Kuchta was working closely with the games. He was listed as an active adviser to the organization as recently as last month and was also active in the Boy Scouts and the Red Cross.

Kuchta received the annual James N. Murphy Award in 1983, given to an employee whose spirit and loyalty exemplify inspired and dedicated service, especially with regard to students.

A memorial fund will be established in his name at MIT.

Robert C. Seamans Jr. ScD '51

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Robert C. Seamans Jr. ScD '51, an MIT alumnus who was a leading NASA administrator during the Apollo program, the ninth secretary of the U.S. Air Force and the dean of MIT's School of Engineering from 1978–81, died on June 28. He was 89.

Seamans, who received his MS in aeronautics from MIT in 1942 and his ScD in instrumentation in 1951, served in several major administrative roles both in the government and at MIT.

Widely credited with helping the U.S. put men on the moon, Seamans held roles as Associate Administrator and Deputy Administrator with NASA during the Apollo program. He was also the first administrator of the Energy Department and a former president of the National Academy of Engineering.

Seamans served as an instructor, assistant professor, and associate professor in the Department of Aeronautical Engineering from the early 1940s through 1955. He also worked as a project leader in the Instrumentation Lab, a chief engineer for Project Meteor and as a director of the Flight Control Lab.

The one period of Seamans' life spent away from academia or the government — from 1955-1960 — landed him at RCA, where he was chief engineer of the company's Airborne Systems Lab and was the Missile Electronics and Controls Division chief engineer.

Seamans served on technical committees of NASA's predecessor, NACA, or the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, from 1948 to 1958. He served

as a consultant to the Scientific Advisory Board of the United States Air Force from 1957 to 1959, and was the Secretary of the Air Force from 1969 to 1973.

He joined NASA in 1960 as an associate administrator, jumping up to deputy administrator five years later. At NASA, he worked on research and engineering programs in cooperation with the Department of Defense.

Upon his return to MIT in 1968, Seamans was named the Jerome Hunsaker Visiting Professor. After another hiatus spent at the Air Force and NAE, he again came back to Cambridge, but this time as the Luce Professor.

Seamans was named the dean of the School of Engineering in 1978 — a post he would leave three years later — where he focused his efforts on laying the foundations of a proposed academic program in the management of technology. He wrote in his memoir, "Aiming at Targets," that he encountered a student in 1992 still in the program he worked to create. "It was gratifying for me to find that the program was still alive and prospering," he wrote.

He officially retired from the Institute in 1984, but served as a senior lecturer in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics until 1996.

In honor of his dedicated work to the field, a part of the Aero-Astro Learning Lab was named in Seamans' honor — The Robert C. Seamans Jr. Laboratory.

In addition to his MIT degrees, Seamans received the BS from Harvard in 1940.

There will be a memorial service at a time to be announced at Harvard in the Memorial Church.

Laura Capone

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Laura Capone, senior associate dean for the Division of Student Life, passed away on Friday, July 4, at Addison Gilbert Hospital after a battle with cancer. She was 47.

Capone, of Gloucester, served MIT for 19 years in a variety of roles, beginning with assistant department head for business affairs and administrative officer for the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation and, later, as project manager for the Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education and Student Life. As senior associate dean for DSL, she contributed to the development of administrative policies, programs, and processes in the broad area of responsibility encompassed by the dean for student life, especially in support of strategic objectives, mission, and goals of the office.

As a leader in organizational change efforts at MIT, Capone made presentations at the National Association of College and University Business Officers and facilitated senior-level programming at the National Conference for the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources. She was published in Shared Services News for her article "Non-Traditional Shared Services

— A Partnership Approach." She is also a member of the 2003 class of MIT's Leader2Leader program.

Capone's colleagues knew her as an accomplished leader, a talented and strategic professional, a teacher, mentor, coach, and friend.

"She generously invested her time and energy in others, rarely accepted credit for her accomplishments, always projected strength and fortitude, and led by example and influence," said Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict. "One of the most noteworthy characteristics of her personality was her ability to always see challenges as mere opportunities, and this was apparent to the end. She approached life's challenges with a positive attitude, her strong character and the spirit of a survivor."

She is survived by her husband of 25 years, Joseph Michael Capone, and by her daughter, Erica Rachel Capone.

A funeral will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, July 11, at Our Lady of Good Voyage Church in Gloucester, and a burial will immediately follow at the Calvary Cemetery Gloucester. Visiting hours will be from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, July 10. A memorial service for Capone will be held at MIT at a later date.

Jack B. Howard

MIT NEWS OFFICE

Jack B. Howard, a professor emeritus in the Department of Chemical Engineering, died on July 7 after a battle with brain cancer. He was 70.

Howard received a BS in 1960 and an MS in 1961 from the University of Kentucky as well as a PhD in 1965 from Pennsylvania State University. After earning his doctorate, Howard came to MIT, where he held positions as assistant, associate, and full professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering and served as the department's executive officer from 1979 to 1981.

He was named the first holder of the Hoyt C. Hottel Chair of Chemical Engineering in 1995; appointed director for MIT's Center for Airborne Organics in 1996; and became a professor emeritus in 2002.

Howard was a world-renowned expert in the manufacture of nanostructured carbon materials. His research focused on high temperature chemistry, especially mech-

anisms and kinetics of reactions in combustion. He was the author or co-author of more than 200 scientific papers and holds 15 patents for his work.

Howard received numerous awards during his career at MIT, including being named to the University of Kentucky's Engineering Hall of Distinction. He won the Bernard Lewis Gold Medal from the Combustion Institute in 1992 and the Henry H. Storch Award from the American Chemical Society in 1983.

"We will all miss Jack for his deep technical knowledge and his gentle, firm advice to students and faculty alike," said Klavs F. Jensen, Department of Chemical Engineering head.

He is survived by his wife, the former Carolyn Butler, of Winchester, Mass., and their two children, Courtenay and Jonathan.

A memorial service will be held on July 16, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. at Park St. Church in downtown Boston.

Solution to Sudoku												
from page 12												
1	2	8	5	9	4	7	6	3				
4	6	9	8	7	3	1	5	2				
5	7	3	6	2	1	8	4	9				
8	5	4	2	6	9	3	7	1				
7	3	6	1	8	5	9	2	4				
9	1	2	3	4	7	5	8	6				
6	9	5	7	3	2	4	1	8				
3	8	7	4	1	6	2	9	5				
2	4	1	9	5	8	6	3	7				

Solution to Crossword												
from page 12												
E	R	I	C	A		F	L	E	S	H		S
B	A	N	A	L		I	O	N	I	A		E
O	L	D	M	A	N	A	N	D	T	H	E	S
N	E	Y		S	I	T	E	S		R	A	M
				U	K	E				A	N	O
N	E	W	F	A	N	G	L	E	D	I	D	E
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Surge in Overseas Applicants Driven by Weak Dollar

By Peter Schworm
THE BOSTON GLOBE

The faltering U.S. dollar, which has steadily lost value against major currencies around the world, has produced a silver lining for foreign students and the American universities that recruit them.

With every dip in the exchange rate, the cost of college for many foreign students has dropped in kind, a discount that has contributed to a surge in demand for Boston-area colleges and universities, college administrators, consultants, and higher education specialists say.

“Everyone wants an American education, but for many families the cost has been prohibitive,” said Marguerite Dennis, vice president for enrollment and international programs at Suffolk University, which attributes a sharp rise in international enrollment this fall to the exchange rate. “But now, the dollar has made coming here so much more attractive and realistic.”

Widely considered the worldwide gold standard for higher education, American universities have suddenly emerged as a bargain for a growing number of international students, whose yen, rupees, and pounds go much further than they used to. The influx is expected to reverse the declines in foreign student enrollment that followed the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

“We know as a general proposition that worldwide economic trends impact student flows,” said Victor Johnson, senior adviser for public policy for NAFSA: Association of

International Educators. “If people are coming here for a couple of days to do nothing but buy a new wardrobe, it would be strange if the exchange rate didn’t affect their educational decisions.”

Many colleges in Massachusetts and across the country report sharp increases in applications and acceptances from international students for the coming school year, especially from India, China, and European countries.

The University of Massachusetts at Amherst expects a roughly 20 percent increase in new international students this fall, while Northeastern University will enroll 17 percent more students than last year’s class. Foreign students will comprise nearly one-quarter of Babson College’s incoming class, after a 67 percent rise in their ranks.

“We’ve stepped up recruiting, and the dollar has certainly played a role,” said Grant Gosselin, Babson’s dean of undergraduate admission. “As the dollar decreases in value, American colleges become that much more attractive.”

As the throngs of foreign tourists who flock to Harvard Yard and other local campuses attest, the Boston area has long been a beacon for international students. With nearly 24,000 foreign students, Boston is the country’s third-leading host city, trailing New York and Los Angeles. Higher-education institutions such as Harvard University, Boston University, Boston College, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Northeastern are known around the

world.

The surge in foreign student enrollment could have a considerable positive economic effect on the region, education specialists said.

“Students see the exchange rate as favorable for them, but it’s also very favorable for us,” said Richard Doherty, president of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts. “Higher education is a major export commodity that really distinguishes us from the other states.”

Last year, the nearly 29,000 foreign students in Massachusetts contributed almost \$1 billion to the state’s economy, according to a new study by the association.

Nationally, this fall’s influx continues a rebound in international enrollment to previous heights, according to the latest figures from the Institute of International Education. The nearly 583,000 foreign students who attended U.S. colleges last year were the most since 2002, when tighter restrictions on student visas and growing anti-American sentiment abroad caused enrollments to decline.

India set the pace, the sixth consecutive year it has sent the most students to the United States, followed by China and Korea.

Some college officials are skeptical that favorable exchange rates are the main reason for the increase. Officials at Harvard, Amherst College, and MIT report increases in international enrollment, but say their financial aid packages make money less of a concern. Since most

colleges offer limited scholarships to foreigners, international students tend to be well off to begin with, others say.

Colleges also point to enhanced recruitment strategies abroad and increased global awareness of American universities, particularly in China and India.

But most admissions officers say they are convinced that the exchange rate has fundamentally altered the financial equation for many middle-class families abroad.

“When you see an unusual increase, you start to wonder, ‘What’s changed dramatically?’” asked Kristen Haack, director of graduate admission for the College of Arts and Sciences at Simmons College. “What’s changed dramatically is the exchange rate. I haven’t heard the usual anxiety from international students, the ‘Oh my gosh, how am I going to pay for this?’”

At Dean College in Franklin, scores of international students have spent the past few months taking English classes, drawn by the opportunity to learn English in a surprisingly inexpensive locale.

“It wasn’t the only reason, but it was pretty important,” Martin Prochazka, an 18-year-old from the Czech Republic, said of his decision to study in the United States. “I checked into London, but it was twice the price.”

Another student at Dean, Livia Bibian, a 23-year-old from Brazil, said the increase of that country’s currency - the real - against the dollar in recent years has made her five-

month stay here a relative bargain.

Not only were classes far more affordable, she estimates she saved \$1,500 in buying a laptop and digital camera, and that’s not even counting the clothes.

“\$799 for a HP laptop, with a nice, big screen,” she said with a satisfied nod. “Amazing.”

Peggy Blumenthal of the Institute of International Education said some national governments, such as Saudi Arabia and Chile, have taken advantage of the low exchange rates to expand international scholarship programs.

Friday, one euro bought about \$1.57, while the pound bought almost \$2. The Australian and Canadian dollars had reached parity.

“Ten years ago, we had to provide scholarship assistance to offset the difference between the Canadian dollar and ours,” said Peter Miller, vice president for admission services at American International College in Springfield. “Now it’s more economical for them to come here.”

Adam Goldberg, an education consultant in Braintree, said families with college-bound students from Toronto and Montreal are “giddy over the exchange rate imbalance.”

Some colleges say they would like to expand recruitment to capitalize on the currency situation.

But because exchange rates are a zero-sum game, there’s a catch.

“Unfortunately, it will make my [international] trips that much more expensive,” said Stuart Schmill ’86, MIT’s admissions dean.

Big Paycheck or Service? Students Are Put to the Test

By Sara Rimer
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A prominent education professor at Harvard has begun leading “reflection” seminars at three highly selective colleges, which he hopes will push undergraduates to think more deeply about the connection between their educations and aspirations.

The professor, Howard Gardner, hopes the seminars will encourage more students to consider public service and other careers beyond the consulting and financial jobs that he says are almost the automatic next step for so many graduates of top colleges.

“Is this what a Harvard education is for?” asked Professor Gardner, who is teaching the seminars at Harvard, Amherst, and Colby with colleagues. “Are Ivy League schools simply becoming selecting mechanisms for Wall Street?”

Although others have expressed similar concerns in recent years, his views have gained support on the Harvard campus with students, faculty, and even the new president, Drew Gilpin Faust, who made the topic the cornerstone of her address to seniors during commencement week. Dr. Faust noted that in the past year, whenever she has met with stu-

dents, their first question has always been the same: “Why are so many of us going to Wall Street?”

On other campuses as well, officials are questioning with new vigor whether too many top students who might otherwise turn their talents to a broader array of fields are being lured by high-paying corporate jobs, and whether colleges should do more to encourage students to consider other careers, especially public service.

As Adam M. Guren, a new Harvard graduate who will be pursuing his doctorate in economics, put it, “A lot of students have been asking the question: ‘We came to Harvard as freshmen to change the world, and we’re leaving to become investment bankers — why is this?’”

In her speech, Dr. Faust highlighted the results of a spring survey by *The Crimson*, the student newspaper, which found that about 20 percent of this year’s graduates were heading into financial services and management consulting, down from about 22 percent last year.

She acknowledged the appeal of the jobs — the money, the promise of stimulating work, the security for students of knowing they will be working alongside their friends, a commitment of only two or three years.

She urged the students to search for measures of personal success beyond financial security, despite “the all but irresistible recruiting juggernaut.”

In his commencement speech last month at Wesleyan University, Barack Obama, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, voiced a similar theme when he sounded an impassioned call to public service, and warned that the pursuit of narrow self-interest — “the big house and the nice suits and the other

‘Are Ivy League schools simply becoming selecting mechanisms for Wall Street?’
— Harvard Professor Howard Gardner

things that our money culture says you should buy ... betrays a poverty of ambition.”

Universities are so concerned about this issue that some — Amherst, Tufts, the University of Pennsylvania, and Harvard, for example — have expanded public service

fellowships and internships. “We’re in the business of graduating people who will make the world better in some way,” said Anthony Marx, Amherst’s president. “That’s what justifies the expense of the education.”

This year, Tufts announced that it would pay off college loans for graduates who chose public service jobs. And officials at Harvard, Penn, Amherst, and a number of other colleges say one reason they have begun emphasizing grants instead of loans in financial aid is so students do not feel pressured by their debts to pursue lucrative careers.

In an interview this spring, Dr. Faust held up as a model Teach for America, the nonprofit program that has recruited large numbers of students at top colleges to teach in low-income schools for two years. With 9 percent of Harvard’s senior class applying to Teach for America this year, 37 students made the cut.

One of the seniors that Dr. Faust met with in the winter was Dhaval Chadha, who wanted her support for a “diversity in careers” forum he was organizing. Mr. Chadha, 21, who grew up in India, will spend the next year on a fellowship in Brazil, working with an antipoverty group in

preparation for what he says will be his career in public service.

“I don’t think a lot of people at Harvard know what a hedge fund or a consulting firm is when they start,” he said. But then, he explained, juniors and seniors being recruited come back from expensive dinners out and “start throwing salaries around,” and students begin to understand that “there’s already a kind of prestige attached to working for those people.”

“It’s like applying to college all over again,” he added. “I applied to 8 to 10 Ivy League colleges, and I got in here. I applied to these 40 companies, and I got into these ones.” It’s exactly the thing that appeals to the Harvard competitive spirit.

Evgenia Peeva, who will be working for McKinsey, said: “You have to be part of the competition. You have to prove to yourself and everyone else that you can do it.”

Bryan Barnhill, a Harvard senior from a public high school in Detroit, took a semester off and will graduate next year. “Some people say it’s a selfish thing to do,” he said, referring to the lucrative jobs. “They say you should be using your talent for something beneficial for your community. Terms like ‘corporate whore’ would be tossed around.”

Barbara Liskov Named One of Thirteen MIT Institute Professors

Liskov, from Page 1

derstand complex systems. Schultz recalls a time when he went in to discuss his research with Liskov and, following the meeting, she e-mailed him a set of notes of their discussion that were clearer and more thorough than his own.

In the lab

Liskov and the group she leads have made significant advances in the robustness of object-oriented programming languages. Her group produced the first language to support data abstraction and, more recently, developed the first practical protocol for securely replicating data on distributed systems and a language for application development on distributed systems.

A current project on Byzantine-fault tolerant systems may help sensitive data on future computers be more resilient to malicious attacks

and software errors.

One researcher in her group developed X Windows, the windowing system used on Linux and Unix operating systems.

Liskov has been recognized for her accomplishments in the field of computer science with both public and technical awards. In 2005, she was given an honorary doctorate at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, and in 2003 was named one of the 50 most important women in science by *Discover* magazine.

Discover wrote that Liskov “paved the way for writing far more complex and subtle computer programs” and called her a “key figure” in the development of software for distributed-system application development.

Promoting faculty equity

Liskov has witnessed women in her department and the Institute as a whole make strides during her

tenure. She has created some of this change herself.

Liskov was the first woman hired as a professor of computer science and, in her time as an associate head of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from 2003 to 2006, she oversaw the hiring of five female faculty members.

She has continued her involvement in the promotion of women faculty at MIT as Associate Provost of Faculty Equity, a role she took on last year.

So far, she said, she has focused her efforts on making adjustments to the hiring process that could allow more women to be interviewed and considered for faculty jobs.

Wesley Harris, who shares the Associate Provost of Faculty Equity position with Liskov, called her appointment as an Institute Professor “spectacular” and described her as an “analytical, committed, and professional” colleague.

In the classroom

While Liskov is no longer involved in curriculum development, earlier in her career she developed and taught some of MIT’s best-known Course VI classes, including the storied 6.170 (Laboratory in Software Engineering), which was discontinued after Fall 2007, and 6.033 (Computer Systems Engineering).

Liskov spoke highly of 6.170, calling it “one of the hallmarks of MIT computer science curriculum” because of the way it “gave graduates a unique perspective on how to build software.”

She said she was “very sad” to see the class retired.

“Barbara has taught countless undergraduates and graduate students who have gone on to help lead top universities, research labs and IT companies,” Provost L. Rafael Reif said to the MIT News Office. “As a computer scientist, she has made a

tremendous impact not only through her groundbreaking research, but through the legions of those she has taught along the way.”

LEGAL COUNSEL

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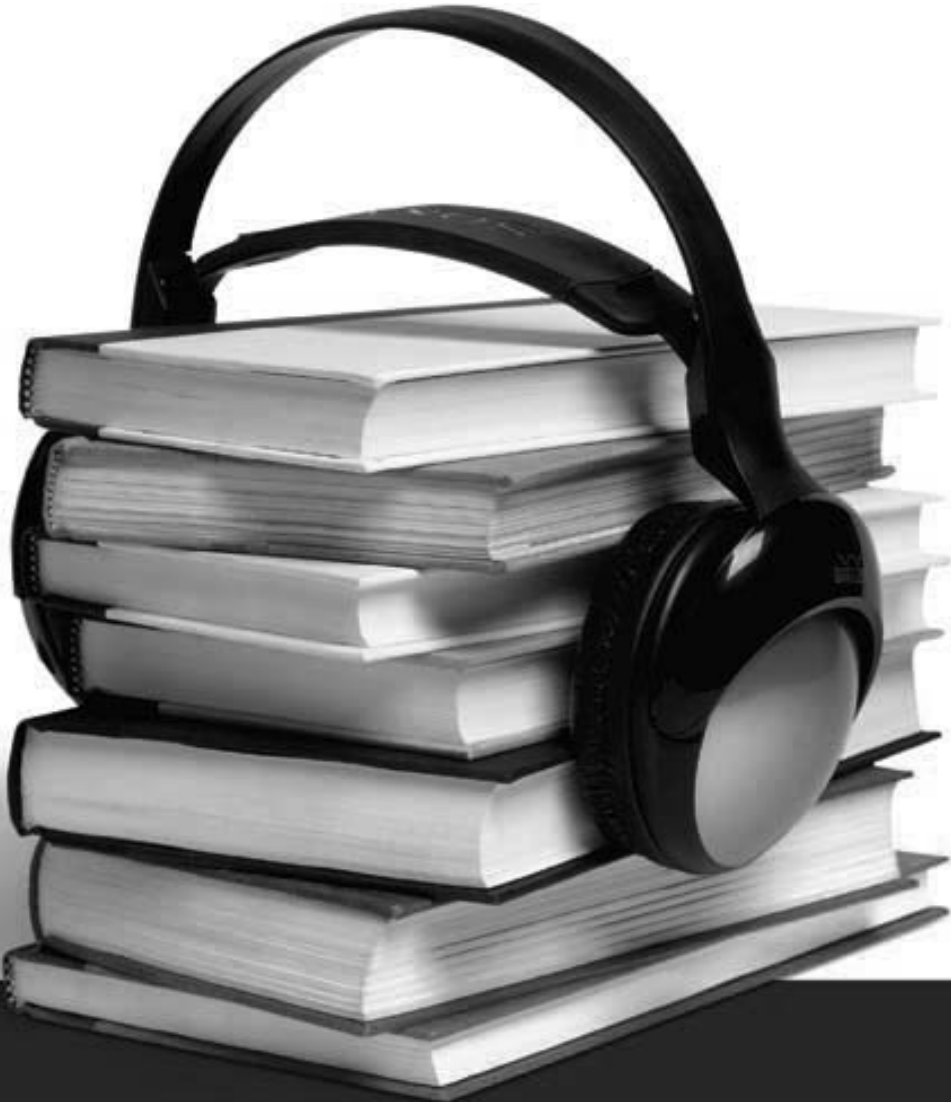
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New Committee Will Consider Future for Network, Phone Bills

Phones, from Page 1

how grant money can be spent, and a requirement that the federal government not subsidize external vendors.

The Tech reported last April that student groups were likely to stop paying for phones and network as a result of the fee restructuring, but no decisions happened in the following 14-month period.

When students began to notice the June 23 charges, some complained to Wartman, who sent out an announcement to the affected groups that evening, apologizing for the lack of notice and explaining the charges.

In interviews, Wartman and Cummings both agreed that important communication with student groups over these charges had not happened.

The final decision that MIT would cover the costs and a committee would be formed to address the question of future charges came as a result of student complaints about the charges, and the lack of notice

about them.

Many questions remain as to how the issue of student phone and network charges will be handled in the future:

¶ Would keeping a per IP address charge for student groups restrict them in ways that departments are not restricted?

¶ Should student groups be treated financially more like departments or external vendors?

¶ What should be the basis for the rates student groups will be charged? Should the 2006–2007 usage be used as a starting point?

¶ Would it be fair to apportion the cost over all student groups, without regard to who uses these services at all?

The yet-to-be-formed committee may address some of these questions in the future. Peter Cummings, who also supervises finances for campus dining groups seems sensitive to the issues at hand: “I’d never want student groups to feel they’re a dining vendor,” he said.

Solution to Bonus
from page 12

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Solution to Extra
from page 12

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Police Log

The following incidents were reported to the MIT Police between June 4, 2008 and June 30, 2008. This summary does not include incidents such as false alarms, general service calls, or medical shuttles.

- June 4:** Lot 2 (20 Albany St.), 5:03 p.m., Reports of motor vehicle broken into and GPS unit stolen from vehicle.
- June 5:** W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 4:41 p.m., Larceny of laptop.
- June 6:** M16 (21 Rear Ames St.), 10:04 a.m., Report of peeping tom in the ladies room on the sixth floor of M16.
W20 (84 Mass. Ave.), 3:37 p.m., Larceny of brass rat.
- June 7:** 167 Albany St., 11:39 p.m., Michael Short, 3 Ames St., Cambridge, Mass., arrested for breaking and entering in the nighttime.
- June 8:** W13 (52 Mass. Ave.), 3:52 p.m., Larceny of bicycle.
- June 9:** 321 South Huntington Ave., 1:16 p.m., Larceny from MIT Credit Union account.
- June 11:** M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 5:17 p.m., Larceny of mountain bike from bike rack area by Bldg 5.
- June 12:** M1 (33 Mass. Ave.), 12:36 p.m., Larceny of three laptop computers.
W89 (291 Vassar St.), 5:59 p.m., Report of hit and run.
- June 13:** M14 (150 Memorial Dr.), 2:23 p.m., Response to Hayden Library on report of larceny.
- June 15:** M14S (160 Memorial Dr.), 5:46 p.m., Hayden desk worker reports larceny of laptop.
- June 16:** M1 (33 Mass. Ave.), 9:32 a.m., Larceny of laptop.
M32 (32 Vassar St.), 2:22 p.m., Larceny of bicycle from rack outside State Center.
W4 (320 Memorial Dr.), 10:12 p.m., Larceny of jewelry from room.
- June 17:** M5 (55 Mass. Ave.), 9:25 a.m., Larceny of laptop.
W61 (450 Memorial Dr.), 10:18 a.m., Larceny of construction material.
- June 18:** M3 (33 Mass. Ave.), 4:36 p.m., Larceny

- of two laptops from office.
M62 (21 Ames St.), 9:09 p.m., Larceny of laptop, cell phone, and cash stolen from unlocked room.
- June 19:** NW14 (150 Albany St.), 7:54 p.m., Report of vending machine broken into.
M26 (60 Rear Vassar St.), 7:57 p.m., Larceny of laptop from office area.
- June 20:** Albany Garage, 7:34 a.m., Report of hit and run; Vehicle was hit while parked in Albany Garage.
N4 (32 Albany St.), 3:44 p.m., Breaking and entering of motor vehicle; GPS stolen.
M64 (21 Ames St.), 8:39 p.m., Larceny of laptop.
- June 22:** M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 4:29 p.m., Larceny of items while at the library.
- June 24:** M54 (21 Rear Ames St.), 6:44 a.m., Report of June 19 larceny of tool bag and contents.
- June 25:** NW86 (70 Pacific St.), 12:13 p.m., Malicious damage to a vehicle.
- June 26:** Waverly St. Lot, 1:26 p.m., Larceny of ladder off roof of truck.
- June 28:** PBE (400 Memorial Dr.), 2:53 p.m., Larceny of laptop from room.
M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), 1:27 p.m., Larceny of laptop from library.
M14 (160 Memorial Dr.), A library patron was shoved and suspect fled; arrest of Phetsomphou Phoungmanny of 1010 Mass. Ave., Boston, Mass.; suspect has outstanding warrant.
Lot 14 (25 Vassar St.), 4:58 p.m., Hit and run accident.
M54 (21 Rear Ames St.), 8:40 p.m., Suspicious individual at bike rack attempting to cut lock; fled upon officers arrival.
- June 30:** M16 (21 Rear Ames St.), 1:39 p.m., Larceny of bicycle.
W7 (362 Memorial Dr.), 3:37 p.m., Larceny of motor vehicle from Danforth St.
M56 (21 Rear Ames St.), 3:38 p.m., Report of peeping tom in women’s room.
Lot 2 (20 Albany St.), 6:11 p.m., Report of motor vehicle broken into and GPS stolen.

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Seats in Renovated 10-250 Will Be Wider, With Power Outlets for Each

10-250, from Page 1

The purple seats will be replaced by maple-backed charcoal ones. While there will be fewer seats — 425 instead of 450 — they will be wider, at least 20 inches instead of 17 inches, said Bedrosian. To accommodate student laptop use, power outlets will be installed on the side of every seat, below each armrest.

Additionally, the carpet over the lecturer's area is being removed in favor of a terrazzo floor which looks like granite. The carpet has already been taken out and the terrazzo floor is to be installed over

the next few weeks, said Bedrosian.

The new audiovisual equipment will incorporate cameras dedicated to capturing classes for archival on OpenCourseWare, said Bedrosian. Previously, portable cameras had been used.

There will be a meeting in late August to familiarize faculty who teach in 10-250 with the new setup, Bedrosian said.

The full process of upgrading 10-250, last renovated in 1978, will have taken a full year since the feasibility study was completed last summer. "The classroom renovation program is ongoing with plans

to renovate other large lecture halls and classrooms in the future," Bedrosian said in an e-mail. "[There is] no decision yet on when or what the next project will be."

The total project cost had been estimated earlier to be several million dollars based on the feasibility study. No new cost estimates were available last week.

The architects of the 1978 renovation and the current renovation are Architectural Resources Cambridge and Tommy Quirk of D'Agostino Izzo Quirk Architects, respectively. The latter also designed other MIT lecture halls such as 3-270 and 3-370.

Widnall, CoD Chair, Talks About Hacking Boundaries at MIT

Hacking, from Page 1

of Building NW16. Short now faces charges of breaking and entering at night with intent to commit a felony and possession of burglarious instruments.

The police report filed by Duane R. Keegan, one of the responding officers, also indicated an intent to file criminal summons for breaking and entering in the nighttime against Barnard and Dang. However, as of Monday afternoon, no records could be found at Cambridge District Court of any such charges.

Short's next court date will be a July 18 pretrial hearing.

labs. "For spaces such as laboratories, the prerogative is with the director of the laboratory" to express a point of view about the seriousness with which an unauthorized access incident should be viewed, she said.

Widnall noted the tension inherent in a mixed community such as MIT, where students and researchers have to coexist in the same shared campus space. "Does breaking into someone's research laboratory meet the goal of an MIT hack?" she asked. "When someone breaks into a laboratory, that violates the basic idea of what this community is about."

MIT Cable Outage Affects Eight West Campus Buildings

Eight buildings were without MIT Cable service from June 23–26. The outage was likely created by power surges related to electrical work that was being done in Next House (W71), according to the Information Services and Technology Web site 3DOWN.

The effected dormitories and buildings were MacGregor House (W61), New House (W70), Next House (W71), Westgate (W84), Tang Hall (W85), W89, W91, and W92.

Service was restored Thursday, June 26, according to MIT Cable Team Leader Randy Winchester.

—Angeline Wang



Crowds gather at the intersection of Causeway St. and Lomasney Way near TD Banknorth Garden where the Boston Celtics won the final game of the NBA Championship finals on June 17 by beating the Los Angeles Lakers 131-92.

CoD chair speaks about boundaries

Though Sheila E. Widnall '60, chair of the Committee on Discipline, declined to comment on the specifics of Short's case, she did talk with *The Tech* about her philosophy with regards to hacking, the different areas on campus, and appropriate boundaries.

The Committee on Discipline takes "each case on individual merits almost without regard to the hacking policy," said Widnall. For the committee, she said, the really important issues are "What are the boundaries?" and "Who decides?"

In expounding on appropriate boundaries for hacking, Widnall drew a division between traditional hacking locations and locations that might pose a greater danger. "There are spaces at MIT that in some sense are historic and may belong to the community," she said. "And there are some spaces that are damn dangerous."

She especially singled out laboratories as examples of dangerous locations. With regards to the Plasma Science and Fusion Center, of which NW16 is a part, she noted the high voltages and highly expensive equipment that is required for the research there.

"This is not the same as the buildings on main campus," not in the same category as the Great Dome, Widnall said.

As for "who decides," Widnall defers to the laboratory directors for

Police policy to notify Dean on Call

Former MIT Police chief and current MIT security director John DiFava also declined to comment on the specifics of Short's case, citing legal reasons. However, he did talk with *The Tech* about some of the avenues through which the MIT Police communicate incidents to the MIT administration.

Upon any "significant incident," including the arrest of a student, "the police department's policy is to automatically notify the Dean on Call," said DiFava. The Dean on Call is a service provided by the Division of Student Life in which members of the Residential Life Programs staff are available to students for emergency assistance after hours or when the Institute is closed.

"We will give the Dean on Call all the information" that we legally can as soon as possible, said DiFava. The Dean on Call can then make the proper further notifications.

In addition, DiFava said that a representative from the MIT Police attends weekly Division of Student Life meetings.

In Short's case, the sphere of notifications seems to have traveled only so far, though. Widnall said, "I knew about this case probably the day after it happened." However, on the Thursday after Short's arrest, when *The Tech* contacted Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 for comment, he had not yet heard about the arrest and charges.

Newly Elected Members of the MIT Corporation

Name	Term	MIT Degrees	Job
Current MIT Activities			
Ursula M. Burns	5 years	—	President, Xerox Corporation
Lawrence K. Fish	5 years	—	Chairman, Citizens Financial Group Inc.; Chairman, RBS America
Visiting committees for Sloan School of Management and Urban Studies and Planning; member of Corporation (2003–2008) and Executive Committee			
Diane B. Greene	5 years	SM '78	President and CEO, VMware Inc.
Visiting committee for Biological Engineering			
Helen Greiner	5 years **	SB '89, SM '90	Chairman of the Board and Co-Founder, iRobot Corporation
Visiting committee for Electrical Engineering; Association of MIT Alumnae; Sloan Management Society			
Harbo Peter Jensen	5 years **	PhD '74	Vice President, ChevronTexaco Global Technology Services Co.
Visiting committee for Biological Engineering, Materials Science and Engineering, and Nuclear Science and Engineering; Corporation ex officio member (2007–2008)			
Abigail P. Johnson	5 years	—	President, Personal and Workplace Investing, Fidelity Investments
Visiting committee for Sloan School of Management; member of Corporation (2007–present); director of Investment Management Company Board			
Marta M. Luczynska	5 years	BS '06, MEng '07	Recent MIT graduate
Victor J. Menezes	5 years **	MS '72	Senior Advisor, New Silk Route Partners, LLC
Visiting committee for Sloan School of Management			
Arthur J. Samberg	Life membership	SB '62	Chairman, Pequot Capital Management Inc.
Visiting committees for Aeronautics and Astronautics and Civil and Environmental Engineering; member of Corporation (2003–present) and Executive Committee ex officio; chair of Investment Management Company Board			
Antonia D. Schuman	1 year *	SB '58	Manager of Advanced Systems, Retired, TRW Data Technologies Division
Visiting committee for Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation			
Peter L. Slavin	1 year	—	President, Massachusetts General Hospital; Professor, Harvard Medical School
Laura D'Andrea Tyson	5 years	PhD '74	Professor, Haas School of Business, University of California at Berkeley
Visiting committee for Economics			

* ex officio for one year as president of the Association of Alumni and Alumnae of MIT (2008–09)

** alumni association nominee

SOURCE: MIT NEWS OFFICE

The MIT Corporation elected the above members at its quarterly meeting on Friday, June 6. All memberships were effective beginning July 1. With these new members, the Corporation consists of 73 members, 21 of which are life members and eight of which are ex officio. An additional 34 individuals are life members emeritus, who can participate in meetings but do not having voting privileges.

SPORTS

MIT Student-Athletes Receive Academic All-America Recognition

By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

Praveen Pamidimukkala '08, Doria M. Holbrook '08, and Julia C. Zimmerman '09 earned College Sports Information Directors Association/ESPN The Magazine Academic All-America accolades in the competitive at-large division to give the Engineers eight national plaudits for the 2007–08 academic year. Pamidimukkala received the first honor in the history of the men's volleyball program, while Holbrook collected her third straight award as a member of the women's swimming and diving team. Zimmerman was also a repeat selection for the women's gymnastics team.

Pamidimukkala was MIT's lone representative on the men's at-large squad as he was voted to the Third Team. The only player in the program's history to earn American Volleyball Coaches Association All-America accolades, he earned Second Team recognition during his sophomore and senior seasons. A Northeast Collegiate Volleyball Association All-Conference First Team pick, Pamidimukkala was named the NECVA New England Division Player of the Year and received All-Division First Team honors. The senior closed his career as MIT's all-time leader in kills (1,949), aces in a season (48), career aces (151), and career solo

blocks (69).

Holbrook was awarded First Team honors, making her the third person in MIT's history to earn three consecutive awards in a single sport. Previously a Second and Third Team selection, she has captured three out of the four accolades for the women's swimming and diving team. Holbrook is a two-time national champion, an eight-time All-America recipient, and the winner of three New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference Diver of the Year accolades. She established an NCAA open record in three-meter diving at the 2008 NEWMAC Championships and holds NEWMAC open and championship records in one- and three-meter diving. Holbrook has collected five NEWMAC crowns and was the only Division III athlete to qualify for the 2008 U.S. National Spring Diving Championships.

Zimmerman made her second straight appearance on the First Team and was one of six athletes to have a perfect grade point average. She notched First Team All-America performances on the beam, vault, floor, and all-around at the National Collegiate Gymnastics Association National Championship, which raised her career total to nine All-America accolades. A two-time national champion, Zimmerman holds Institute records in four out of five events.

MIT Theater on Ice Ends Season at International Competition in Vermont

By Diana Cheng
TEAM MEMBER

MIT's Theater on Ice team competed at the Thirteenth Annual International Theater on Ice competition, held at the Gordon H. Paquette Arena in Burlington, Vt. on June 28. The team placed fifth out of five teams in the Adult Choreographic Exercise category in its first season of existence.

The theme of the team's two-minute, thirty-second program was Creative Evolution, set to the Philadelphia Orchestra's performance of "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" from Walt Disney's *Fantasia*. Their performance was described as follows: "Come join us as we explore the circle of life, evolving from single cells to full grown animals, growing and changing as we cycle through the circle of life with every generation."

Choreographic exercise themes change each year. The required elements for choreographic exercise in 2007–08 were a theme of growth, choreographic process of repetition, and slow gestures. Adult team members must be aged

18 or older as of July 1, 2007, and must have passed at least one U.S. Figure Skating test. Teams must have between eight and 30 members.

MIT Theater on Ice's team members were Diane M. Brancazio '90, Diana S. Cheng '04, Jane Codman (staff), Saja A. Fakhraldeen '09, Kachina C. Gosselin '10, Brianne M. Holmbeck '08, Patricia Lee (spouse of an MIT alumnus), and Jingyi "Cynthia" Tang '09.

The team began rehearsing at Johnson Rink in November 2007, performed in the MIT Exhibition in March 2008, and competed at the North Shore Open in Reading, Mass. in May 2008 in preparation for the international competition. Students Victoria Lee '10, Annie Ouyang '11, David M. Wentzlauff G, and Helen You '09 participated as part of the team during the academic school year, but were unable to attend this event. Coaches and choreographers were Wellesley College student Anne Goldberg, Jessica A. Eisenstein '05, and Aubrey L. Samost '10.

A video recording of the performance will be broadcast on www.icenetwork.com, a sponsor of U.S. Figure Skating.

'Baseball' Exhibit Shows That Baseball Mirrors Everyday Life

By Caroline Huang
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Sport and society are often linked, whether by a fan's comparison between a game-winning goal and real-life heroics or a journalist's association between performance-enhancing drugs and rampant dishonesty in American politics. Such comparisons are primed for aggrandizement: caught up in the moment, we often forget that the realm of sports does not always equal the realm of the real world. Based on its name alone, the traveling Baseball as America exhibit seems likely to fall under this category of distorted reality.

Exhibit Review

However, a closer look at the exhibit, currently on display at Boston's Museum of Science, reveals that the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum has largely avoided this trap. The creators have pieced together the history and development of a sport and related its context to history in just a subset of items from Cooperstown. Though the exhibit uses baseball as a barometer for the national culture, it focuses on baseball and America's complex co-evolution instead of making superficial comparisons.

Admirably, the exhibit does not attempt to gloss over the uglier sides of American history: it covers commercialization and racial, gender, and ethnic stereotypes in as much depth as it covers memorable World Series and individual achievements. As the exhibit proclaims, "It is this controversial history and changing face that make baseball an effective emblem of America. Look to baseball and you

will see our ideals and our injustices, our triumphs and our struggles."

The shining moment of the exhibit, however, lies in something far less prominent than Curt Schilling's bloody sock. (For the record, it really doesn't look like it was smeared with ketchup.) The label of this memento reads, "Shoebox of baseball cards thrown away by your mother." The appeal of the Baseball as America exhibit hinges on the idea that baseball mirrors American life — not just its professional achievements, but also the everyday items and memories that connect millions of people.

Similarly moving is the display on 9/11 that immediately greets visitors upon entry. Accompanying a promotional baseball found at Ground Zero by New York City firefighter Vin Mavaro is Mavaro's letter to the CEO of Trade Web, the company that manufactured the baseball: "Being a baseball fan, coach and player, this item has become a symbol of hope for me." For me, this pairing is even more poignant than Curt Schilling's cap from the 2001 World Series, adorned with a New York Police Department shield. A lesser exhibit might have included only the professional baseball connection to 9/11 and missed how powerful the average person's relationship to baseball can be.

Of course, there are the usual suspects: the panel devoted to Babe Ruth, the Jackie Robinson display, the Black Sox scandal from 1919. Other interesting tidbits are the Strat-O-Matic, the precursor to fantasy baseball; several items belonging to Moe Berg, the major-league catcher who was also an American spy; and a picture of the Ichi Roll, a sushi roll at Seattle's Safeco Field named for All-Star outfielder Ichiro Suzuki.

For those interested in the technological side of baseball, the "Invention and Ingenuity" placard discusses the Navier-Stokes equation in relation to the way pitches rotate, a prelude to displays of equipment and communications advances. Regarding the curve ball, former Harvard president Charles Eliot gave us this ironic gem: "I understand that a curve ball is thrown with a deliberate attempt to deceive. Surely this is not an ability we should want to foster at Harvard."

Additionally, there is a section devoted just to the Red Sox. A good portion of these items represented the players taking the field in Fenway today. I'm not sure if this is in light of their two titles since 2004 and the requisite mention (and resolution) of the 86-year curse, or perhaps a feature that the curators tweak every time the exhibit changes cities to reflect the history of the team closest to that city. If it's the latter, I'm even more impressed at the way the exhibit involves the casual regional fan.

That's not the only personal touch, either. The exhibit encourages fans to upload their own baseball "stories" to its database. Additionally, when your party enters the exhibit you pass by "home plate," and have your picture taken for a collection of your own — for \$20.

Perhaps the Museum took a lesson from the "Enterprise and Opportunity" section. But in a few years, maybe your pictures or ticket stubs from the exhibit will lie next to the Ted Williams-endorsed fishing rod and tackle.

The Baseball as America exhibit will stay in Boston's Museum of Science until Sept. 1, 2008. Admission is \$21 per adult.

Bob, Eveline Roberts Pledge \$2 Million To Upgrade Steinbrenner Stadium Turf

By James Kramer
DAPER STAFF

A gift from the parents of an MIT student-athlete will change the landscape for outdoor competition in the Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation. Bob and Eveline Roberts, whose daughter, Julia N. Roberts '10, is a midfielder on the women's soccer team, have pledged \$2 million for the installation of synthetic grass turf in Henry G. Steinbrenner '27 Stadium.

"The generosity of the Roberts family in support of the installation of a new surface and upgrade to our

outdoor facilities cannot be overstated," said DAPER Department Head and Director of Athletics Julie Soriero. "Our students and student-athletes can proudly practice and compete in a first-rate facility. This is a transformational gift that benefits the entire MIT community. We are truly grateful and excited about seeing this project completed for our teams competing in the fall of 2008."

President Susan Hockfield also thanked the Roberts for their gift. "This much-needed upgrade is an important Institutional priority, but we could not have begun to take action without the Roberts' thoughtful generosity," Hockfield said. "Simply put, this gift will transform our campus and community, and will inspire our alumni and friends to help us provide our exceptional students with resources that are commensurate with their potential as future leaders."

In addition to the installation of grass turf, the Roberts' gift could also spark the next phase of the Steinbrenner Stadium renovation which includes lighting, seating, and a new press box.

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